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Feds' 'tough on crime' stance tough on police budgets: Group

POLICING The federal government ignores the fact that its law-and-order agenda means higher costs for local cops, the country's largest police association said yesterday.

Charles Momy, president of the 41,000-member Canadian Police Association, said municipal police are being saddled with national issues on top of day-to-day crime, but get no extra cash.

Cyber crime — including child pornography, financial fraud and cyber-bullying — along with organized crime, emergency preparedness and national security are devouring police budgets, he said.

Stephen Harper's Conservative government has declared law and order a top priority ever since it was first elected in 2006, despite federal statistics showing crime rates are flat or declining.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Canada pg 5
Should sex ed start in Gr. 3?

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Playoffs

Crashing and burning

FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ottawa Senator Mike Fisher (12) and Pittsburgh Penguin Kris Letang (58) crash into the boards during the first period of a first-round NHL playoff hockey game in Ottawa last night. The Penguins took a 3-1 lead in the Eastern Conference quarter-final series with a 7-4 victory. **More coverage, page 15.**

Fest draws 'star power'

Iron Maiden, Rush among big names at 2010 Bluesfest

TRACEY TONG
tracey.tong@metronews.ca

Iron Maiden, Rush, Arcade Fire, Carlos Santana, Keith Urban and Weezer are coming to Ottawa.

These are just some of the hundreds of big names, which also include Alexisonfire, Matthew Good, Metric, Drake and the Flaming Lips, that are playing at Ottawa Bluesfest this summer.

Organizers released the lineup for the 2010 festival at midnight.

"I would say this is the biggest lineup we've ever done," said Bluesfest executive and artistic director Mark Monahan. "This lineup compares to any large-scale festival in North America and Europe in terms of star power, the number of people and the number of acts," he said.

Named one of the top 10 festivals in the world by Billboard Magazine, Bluesfest has been many years in the making, Monahan said. Now in its 17th year, the festival, which will feature 250 acts and 2,000 musicians on six stages, is known worldwide.

More than 400,000 people are expected to attend the event, held at LeBreton Flats Park July 6-11 and July 13-18. In addition to 13 days of programming at the main site, the festival is bringing back Bluesfest in the ByWard, six nights of free programming.

PHOTO COURTESY OTTAWA BLUESFEST

Santana is one of the headliners for this summer's Bluesfest.

While 30 per cent of attendees will come from outside Ottawa, most concert-goers are local.

"It's a chance for people to support music locally," Monahan said. "We have 60 local bands this year. There is a huge commitment to the local scene. This is a great opportunity to show how much talent there is in Ottawa." Local performers include Loudlove, Lindsay Ferguson, GOOD2GO, Bluestone, the Ethics and Down in Ashes.

"We're considered a great place to play," he said. "A lot of bands have gotten great exposure at Bluesfest."

One example is Metric, who played the festival for years before winning a Juno Award earlier this week.

"Sometimes its hard to appreciate something that's right on your doorstep," Monahan said, "but this a great opportunity to experience some unforgettable performances."

More mixed race couples marrying in Canada, says StatsCan

CENSUS Qais Ghanem, a Muslim originally from Yemen, found love as a university student in the 1970s. His bride? A Christian woman from England. His parents? Not impressed.

Fast forward 40 years and he and his wife, Valerie Ghanem, are no longer an out-of-the-ordinary pairing. The duo are one of 289,400 mixed-race Canadian couples — a number that a new Statistics Canada report suggests is a third higher than it was less than a decade ago.

The report, which comes from 2006 census data, indicates most of today's mixed unions are between couples who are young, from urban areas and represent a higher than average socio-economic class.

The number of mixed marriages increased 33.1 per cent since 2001, and now account for 3.9 per cent of all unions.

A professor at Queen's University and expert in multiculturalism says the number is low considering our multicultural makeup. Audrey Kobayashi says it's difficult to compare rates of mixed marriages globally because many countries factor religion into the mixed union equation.

Second, third and fourth generation Canadians are more likely to marry outside of their race. Kobayashi says this has a lot to do with changes in personal identity. "People meet at university, for example, and their identity has more to do with what they're studying or with what their subsequent occupations are, perhaps, than with their ethno-cultural history."

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Local

Afghanistan exhibit ends this weekend

Ottawa residents have until Sunday to see Afghanistan's treasures at the Canadian Museum of Civilization. Afghanistan: Hidden Treasures features delicate gold ornaments, fine sculptures and other objects from the National Museum in Kabul. The artifacts, which date from around 300 BCE to 100 CE, were drawn from four distinct archaeological sites. **METRO OTTAWA**

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News in brief

CHARGES Ottawa police have arrested a third male after investigating a robbery at Algonquin College last month. Muhamad Alhasi, 19, of Ottawa, is charged with one count each of robbery, conspiracy, extortion, forcible confinement and two counts of breach of recognizance.

VICTIMS' VOICES To commemorate National Victims Week, the Ottawa Police Service GLBT liaison committee, in partnership with the GLBTTQ Community Centre of Ottawa, is hosting a two-day conference today and tomorrow. Victims' Voices Matter includes a scripted read-through of victims' stories from across Canada.

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What's online today.

Video Kandahar Press Club nurtures Afghanistan's growing media at **metronews.ca/canada**

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palates are putting a dent in beer's market share at **metronews.ca/canada**

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Telecom R&D lab officially opens

Chinese-based firm hopes to expand staff to 250 from current 70 in next few years

TIM WIECLAWSKI
tim.wieclawski@metronews.ca

When the next generation of wireless networks goes online in Canada, part of the research and development behind the technology will have come from Ottawa.

Yesterday, Huawei, a Chinese-based telecom network solutions company, officially opened its first Canadian R&D centre in Kanata.

While the name Huawei may not be well-known to cellphone users, the company is one of the world's largest suppliers of networking hardware to providers like Bell and Telus.

The company has an annual revenue of $30 billion and employs 950,000 people, including 40,000 R&D staff in 17 centres around the world.

Even Mayor Larry O'Brien admitted Huawei may be the largest company he had never heard of until about a month ago.

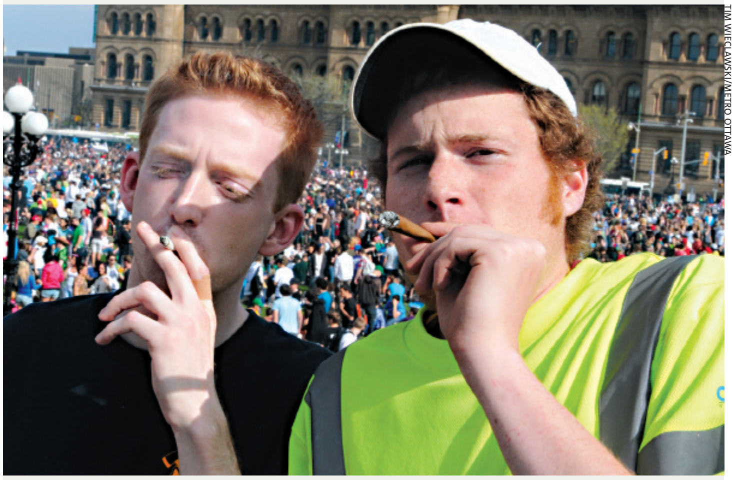
At a time when many high-tech firms are choosing to move operations to cheaper labour markets, Carl Liu, president of Huawei Canada, said it chose to open its lab in Ottawa to take advantage of a surplus of highly trained and talented workers as well as the high-tech infrastructure.

Huawei employs 70 staff in its Ottawa offices and within a few years, Liu would like to have around 250 employees in the R&D lab.

O'Brien said the opening of the lab is a spark to remind people that Ottawa is a world leader in telecommunications technology.

"We have such a wide variety of highly competent technology people here," said O'Brien.

4-20 Taking in the air



TIM WIECLAWSKI/METRO OTTAWA

Alex Overby, 22, left, and Corey Austin, 21, take in the atmosphere during the annual 4-20 Day pro-marijuana gathering on Parliament Hill. Thousands of people attended the unorganized event.

City reserve funds to cover $17.4M deficit

COMMITTEE It was either the recession or the payout to settle the cancelled light rail project that was responsible for the city's $17.4-million deficit in 2009.

Yesterday, the city's audit, budget and finance committee voted to fund that deficit from the corporate fleet reserve fund ($11.9 million), the citywide capital reserve fund ($5.3 million) and $152,000 from the library capital reserve fund.

The deficit amounts to less than one per cent of the city's $2.2-billion annual operating budget.

METRO OTTAWA

City's compost almost sold out for rest of year

RECYCLING Demand for compost created from Ottawa's household waste recycling program is so high that it is almost sold out for the rest of the year, even though the first batch just left the facility yesterday.

"The local farming community has been looking for a product like this to improve their soil for quite some time," said Travis Woolings, sales and marketing manager with Orgaworld Canada.

"We were pretty much sold out of our product even before the facility started receiving waste."

The first few loads of compost are being shipped directly to farmers in the area. Woolings said the company plans to produce between 400 and 500 tonnes of compost each week for the next few weeks. Production slows down after all the yards are cleaned up.

TIM WIECLAWSKI/METRO OTTAWA

Alta Vista Ward Coun. Peter Hume, left, and Orgaworld's Travis Woolings hold out the first batch of compost from the city's source-separated organics recycling program.

Unfortunately, residents in Ottawa cannot buy back their kitchen scraps to put in their gardens, unless they want to share it with the rest of the neighbourhood.

Woolings said most customers have ordered at least 2,000 tonnes each.

Five per cent of the compost created at the Orgaworld site goes back to the city to use in city parks.

TIM WIECLAWSKI/METRO OTTAWA

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Call for Robin Hood tax

Levy on transactions would aid poor countries

Canadian aid and development groups gathered at Parliament Hill and in downtown Ottawa yesterday to call on the federal government to support a tax that would raise billions of dollars to tackle poverty and climate change in poor countries.

The Robin Hood tax — a financial transaction tax — is "a very small tax," said Mark Fried, policy co-ordinator for Oxfam Canada.

"It's 0.05 per cent, which is about 50 cents in every $1,000," he said. The tax would be applied to the big banks and brokerage firms for transactions between institutions involving stocks, bonds and foreign exchange. It would not cover retail banking and ordinary consumer transactions.

Oxfam often asks the government for resources to support the fight against poverty and climate change, Fried said.

"They're desperately needed, more so because of the economic crisis, yet Canada and other wealthy governments are saying they don't have the money."

A financial transaction tax is a good way to raise money, said Fried. It has the potential to raise more than $700 million a year in Canada and $700 billion a year worldwide — six times the current global level of development assistance.

TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA

Robin Hood, a.k.a. Philip Lewis with Oxfam Canada, takes aim at a target of 0.05 per cent in downtown Ottawa yesterday. Oxfam is asking the federal government to support the Robin Hood tax, or a financial transaction tax, that would raise billions for poor countries.

The tax "would be good for the economy," said Toby Sanger, senior economist with the Canadian Union of Public Employees. "It would help dampen financial speculation, redirect finance to more productive purposes and promote greater economic stability, as well as raise funds for vital human needs."

Many governments around the world, including France, Britain and Germany, already support the financial transaction tax, Fried said.

While Oxfam has already spoken with different parliamentarians and Finance Ministry officials about this topic, Fried said he hopes Finance Minister Jim Flaherty will support it after speaking with other finance ministers at a G20 meeting this Friday.

Fried is hoping the public will show support for Oxfam's campaign at robinhoodtax.ca.

"The banks should pay their fair share," he said. "We pay our taxes and so should the banks."

TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA

Writers Festival kicking off

CULTURE The spring edition of the Ottawa International Writers Festival begins this week.

Starting tomorrow and running through April 27, the festival will include lectures by renowned authors and respected thinkers on a variety of topics.

"It is an opportunity to rub shoulders with the best and the brightest," said Sean Wilson, one of the festival's founders. "It is a great opportunity to meet people interested in whatever you are."

Wilson and his father co-founded the event in the fall of 1997 out of a desire to contribute to the cultural life in the capital city. Since the first year, participation in the festival has exploded, resulting in the addition of a spring session in 2004.

People originally thought that the talks would be stuffy or painful, but in reality they are a lot of fun, said Wilson.

The majority of this year's talks will take place at the Mayfair Theatre, with lunchtime programming held at the Library and Archives of Canada.

MIRANDA MINASSIAN/ FOR METRO OTTAWA

City paramedics win national competition

EVALUATION Two Ottawa paramedics have finished first in the National Paramedic Competition.

Chelsea Robertson and Fergus Graham completed academic evaluations and worked through simulated stressful emergency environments against more than 30 teams from across Canada to win the competition, which was held in Oshawa recently.

"Both paramedics worked very hard at training for this competition," said paramedic chief Anthony Di Monte. "I want to say how proud of we are of them for capturing this national title."

"Our city is blessed with some of the best paramedics in the country," said community and protective services committee chair Coun. Diane Deans.

The annual event, which began in 2003, tests participants' knowledge of their clinical and academic aptitudes.

TRACEY TONG/ METRO OTTAWA

Followup talk on violence against women at city hall

EVENT An event to engage men and boys to end violence against women will be held at city hall tomorrow.

As a followup to last fall's Man Talk, hosted by White Ribbon Campaign co-founder Michael Kaufman, the Ottawa Coalition to End Violence Against Women and the Sexual Assault Network are partnering to host Man Talk, Take Two: Engaging Men and Boys to End Violence Against Women.

The event, emceed by local media personality Bill Welychka of A News, will follow up by asking youth what initiatives they have participated in since the first Man Talk. The event will feature their videos, spoken word and theatre presentations.

The event will also launch the Seeds for Change campaign for Sexual Assault Awareness Month in May.

The event will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. at Jean Pigott Hall at city hall.

TRACEY TONG/ METRO OTTAWA

Canada, U.S. square off in cyber war games

Six U.S. and Canadian service academies are competing to see which can best defend a computer network from a cyber attack. The 10th annual Cyber Defence Exercise began Tuesday and runs through Friday. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Canada

Hold the salt, say health authorities

Canadian health authorities are exploring ways to reduce salt intake. Health Canada has a sodium working group comprising government and industry representatives that has been meeting on the issue. Last fall the group agreed to an interim goal to reduce the levels of sodium in the Canadian diet to 2,300 mg per person per day by 2016, based on reducing sodium consumption by five per cent each year. It is estimated Canadians currently ingest 3,400 mg of salt a day. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

News in brief

BOOZE The latest national figures suggest Canadian palates — at least when it comes to alcohol — are becoming somewhat more sophisticated. Beer and liquor stores and agencies sold $19.4 billion worth of alcoholic beverages during the fiscal year ending March 31, 2009, three per cent more than in the previous year. Statistics Canada attributes the dollar growth to an increase in sales of imported spirits and beer compared with domestic products, and a one per cent average increase in the cost of alcoholic beverages.

HEALTH The $1.6-billion agency responsible for giving every Canadian an electronic health record acknowledges it won't meet a key target. Canada Health Infoway Inc. had said for years that half the population would have an electronic health record by the end of 2010, and every Canadian would have one by 2016.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Congo **Survivor's story**

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Honorine Kabuo, left, bids farewell to Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean following her visit to Goma, Democratic Republic of the Congo yesterday. Kabuo was attacked by rebels in 2001 while walking through the bush with her husband and two-year-old son. Both her husband and son were killed after she was raped by four men. She was slashed in the neck and had her pregnant stomach cut open but lives to tell of her now eight-year-old daughter she named Victory for her survival. Kabuo and her daughter both live with HIV contracted from rebels.

Premier backs sex-ed program

A new sex education curriculum that will see Ontario students learn about masturbation in Grade 6 and oral sex at age 12 is a responsible way to teach children about sex, Premier Dalton McGuinty said yesterday.

Some conservatives groups who are mounting a campaign to get rid of the sex ed program, which sees lessons taught as early as Grade 3, are accusing the government of corrupting young minds with sexually explicit material. Kids will learn about such topics anyway, whether it's from their friends or the Internet, said McGuinty. By making it part of the curriculum, children will get the information in a venue "over which we have some control," he argued.

Sixth graders would be taught about masturbation and vaginal lubrication and 12-year-olds will get lessons on oral and anal sex, charged Dr. Charles McVety, president of Canada Christian College and opponent of the program.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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‘Worst parking job ever’ gets $500 fine

A Richmond Hill, Ont., woman has pleaded guilty to an accident dubbed the “Worst Parking Job Ever!” in a YouTube video. Tripta Kaushal, 62, was handed a $500 fine yesterday for failing to report an accident after she drove her SUV over two other cars in a fitness centre parking lot. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Hotel chain aims to create Good Neighbours

HEATHER BUCHAN
for Metro Canada

Yesterday marked the launch of a unique, but worthwhile charitable initiative.

Called the Good Neighbours Challenge 2010, it was founded by Delta Hotels and Resorts as part of the company’s corporate social responsibility program and aims to raise $1 million for various Canadian charities.

As part of the challenge, throughout 2010, Delta employees will volunteer 10,000 hours to charities and organizations in communities across the country with a focus on four key areas — improving access to affordable housing, protecting the environment, supporting neighbourhood causes, and volunteering.

“This commitment is about supporting local organizations and neighbourhood causes,” said Hank Stackhouse, Delta’s president and CEO. “It’s also about volunteering in our own backyard to build a stronger community for everyone to share.”

> **“Good neighbours are the foundation of any strong community.”**
> Ben Mulroney, e-Talk host

E-Talk host Ben Mulroney who attended yesterday morning’s launch echoed that sentiment, saying: “Good neighbours are the foundation of any strong community. It’s important to remember there are people in need right in our own neighbourhoods.”

Last month, Delta asked 2,526 Canadians nationwide what they believe makes a good neighbour.

To learn more, visit deltahotels.com/goodneighbours

Among the results: 94 per cent of Canadians believe they are a good neighbour; only 45 per cent feel their neighbourhood comes together in tough times to support one another; 61 per cent feel the top thing neighbours can do for one another is keep an eye on one another’s property. Just 18 per cent trust their neighbours completely, while 13 per cent do not trust their neighbours at all.

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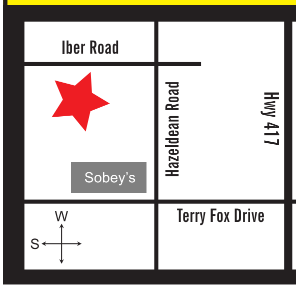
The ***Ottawa Kanata Sunrise Rotary Club*** will be hosting a **Charity BBQ** on site with **all proceeds** supporting the **“Back Pack Program”**. All funds raised will be used to purchase back packs, fill them with school supplies and donate them to needy children in the Ottawa area.



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Vancouver B.C. premier gets Buzzed

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

B.C. Premier Gordon Campbell holds a figure of Buzz Lightyear, from the Pixar movie Toy Story, bearing a Canadian flag during the opening of Pixar Canada in Vancouver yesterday. Pixar, a subsidiary of the Walt Disney Company, will make short films at the new studio.

Aging systems put EI at risk: AG

TECHNOLOGY Tax refunds, EI and pension cheques could be at stake as government computer systems get old, the auditor general warns.

Despite the risk of failure in computers at major agencies, including the Canada Revenue Agency and the EI program, there’s no overall plan in place to solve what is a multibillion-dollar problem.

Auditor General Sheila Fraser’s latest report says many computer systems are still working, but as they age, many can’t be updated and they get more expensive to operate.

The government has known about the risks of aging systems for a decade, but still isn’t putting enough money into up-to-date equipment and software, says the document.

Stockwell Day, president of the Treasury Board, said departments are working on plans to replace geriatric systems.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

GUERGIS Conservatives in the riding of MP Helena Guergis are already chomping at the bit to run in her stead in the next federal election. The status of the Ontario MP for Simcoe-Grey remains in limbo since she was fired from the Tory caucus over allegations of offshore financial accounts and potential blackmail. The Simcoe-Grey Conservative association says members of the riding executive are getting calls “all the time” from people interested in replacing Guergis.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Heed faces wrongful dismissal suit
A constituency assistant former B.C. solicitor general Kash Heed fired earlier this year has filed a wrongful dismissal lawsuit. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

RCMP charge man for 15-year-old murders

Larry Mills shook and his voice trembled with emotion as he talked yesterday about his son and ex-wife who were strangled in 1995 in southeastern New Brunswick.

Almost 15 years after the double killings shocked this rural corner of the province, the RCMP charged Raymond Joseph White with two counts of first-degree murder.

Over the years, Mills had been critical of police for the pace of their investigation, going so far as to lay a complaint with the Commission for Public Complaints Against the RCMP.

But yesterday, he thanked the force for finally bringing charges.

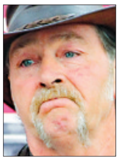
"I know I have been frustrated over the years wanting to see action, and I know there are procedures that have to be followed, but it has not made it easier for me as I waited for this day to come," Mills said as he wiped tears from his eyes at a news conference called by the Mounties to announce the charges.

"There has not been a day go by that I don't think of my son and Mary."

The bodies of Mary Lou Barnes, 37, and her 12-year-old son Larry Mills Jr. were found by a relative in their mobile home in British Settlement, near Sackville, on Nov. 6, 1995. Both bodies were found on a bed.

In 2000, police said they had a person of interest in the case. But RCMP Sgt. Paul Ouellette said they weren't able to lay charges until new information was received a few weeks ago.

He wouldn't give details or speculate on a motive for the killings, but he said White was always a suspect.


Larry Mills

"We had suspicions on him right from the start," Ouellette said. "However, you have to have sufficient evidence to lay a charge. We were never in that position to do so.

"Mr. White did reside in the area, not far from where the incident happened, and he was known to Mary Lou Barnes. But there was no relationship that we're aware of as investigators.''

Mills said the past 15 years have been agonizing.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ontario fights drug war on YouTube

HEALTH Ontario's governing Liberals are moving their escalating drug war with pharmacists to the Internet.

A day after pharmacies launched an ad campaign to protest funding cuts, the government opened a YouTube channel and website to get their message across.

Voters value their pharmacists, but they're also beginning to realize that rising health-care costs are endangering other programs, Premier Dalton McGuinty said yesterday.

When they learn that Ontario pays some of the highest drug costs in the world, they'll ask themselves what can be done to reduce those costs, he said.

"It's a difficult thing to do, but I know it's the right thing to do," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Leaked panel report tells G20 to stick to tight script

POLITICS Stick to a carefully crafted script if you don't want it to die.

That's the advice from an expert Canadian-Korean panel that met last month in Ottawa to advise the Harper government on how to keep the G20 alive beyond its seminal summit in Toronto this summer.

The 115-page report, obtained by The Canadian Press, says the new international club — tasked with solving the global economic meltdown — will lose public trust and face a dubious future if it makes promises it can't keep.

Far-reaching and difficult negotiations such as global trade liberalization and climate change should be avoided, the group advises.

Instead, the summit should follow elements of the G20's New Beginning framework from its Pittsburgh summit last fall that focused on promoting sustainable and balanced economic growth.

"The G20, after all, remains something of an experiment in collective leadership and enhanced co-ordination. It will be properly judged not by the promises it makes, but by the progress it delivers," says the 115-page report prepared for the government.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

> **"The G20, after all, remains something of an experiment in collective leadership."**
> Report excerpt

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Alberta bloggers told: 'No logo'
Two blogs have been sent cease-and-desist letters for satirizing the new municipal logos of Rocky View County, Alta. The town's slogan "cultivating communities" was replaced on the blogs with "paving paradise" and "urbanizing the country." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Polygamist will have to pay his own way

Polygamist leader Winston Blackmore is welcome to take part in a court review of Canada's polygamy law, but the government won't pay his legal bills, B.C.'s Supreme Court chief justice has ruled.

Blackmore went to court asking that he be made a party in the review, with standing equal to government lawyers, and that government fund his lawyers.

In a hearing last month, his lawyer said Blackmore needed hundreds of thousands of dollars in advance to take part in the constitutional review of the law because both the polygamist leader and his congregation were the test.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Winston Blackmore

But Chief Justice Robert Bauman ruled Blackmore isn't the "target" of the case and the hearing will go ahead without him unless he agrees to have the same status as his former co-accused.

In a written ruling, Bauman said Blackmore's participation would be helpful, but not "necessary."

Police alleged Blackmore — the religious leader of the southeast B.C. community of Bountiful — had 19 wives and more than 100 children.

He was charged, along with rival community leader James Oler, last year under the polygamy law, but the charges were dropped.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Wildfires threaten homes in Alberta

PRECAUTION Wildfires have injured at least two people and are threatening homes on an aboriginal reserve west of Edmonton.

RCMP say people who live on the Paul First Nation have been asked to gather at the community school as a precaution.

The Alberta government has sent a group of water bombers to help ground crews who are fighting the flames.

The blaze is only one of about 60 wildfires that are burning across the province, including one near the town of Peace River.

Wildfire specialist Anastasia Drummond says conditions are tinder dry across much of Alberta because of low winter snowfall and virtually no spring rain.

People are being urged to avoid setting any fires and to follow any government fire bans.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

No cash for jail cell cameras, inquiry hears

MANSLAUGHTER A former staff sergeant says it's unfortunate there were no cameras in the holding cell where an RCMP officer shot and killed a southern Alberta man.

Gary Mills, who was the commander of the Pincher Creek detachment at the time, told a fatality inquiry a request for cameras had been made the year before. But there wasn't enough money in the budget.

The inquiry is reviewing the death of Darren Varley, who was shot by former Mountie Mike Ferguson in a jail cell in October 1999. Ferguson was found guilty of manslaughter.

The detachment has since installed cameras in its jail cells.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Somalia won't shutter radio stations

Somalia's government yesterday backed off an order to close down radio stations in the capital that had obeyed an Islamist militia's order to stop playing music. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

World

Civil rights pioneer dies at 98

Dorothy Height, who as longtime president of the National Council of Negro Women was the leading female voice of the 1960s civil rights movement in the United States, died yesterday. She was 98. Height, who continued actively speaking out into her 90s, had been at Howard University Hospital in Washington for some time. Height was on the platform at the Lincoln Memorial, sitting only a few feet from Martin Luther King when he gave his famous "I have a dream" speech at the civil rights march on Washington in 1963. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Sailors to recreate a storied journey

PACIFIC Four adventurers set sail in an open boat from the Pacific nation of Tonga in a bid to re-enact the epic 7,040-kilometre survival voyage of Captain William Bligh of HMS Bounty fame when he was cast adrift by mutineers in 1789. Bligh, widely acknowledged as an expert seaman, sailed a 14-metre open longboat with 18 crew from near Tonga to West Timor in 48 days, surviving by catching fish and seabirds and drinking rain water. The new expedition is sailing in a seven-metre, the Talisker Bounty. The team expects to take seven weeks to cover the distance. Led by Australian Don McIntyre, the expedition includes experienced Antarctic sailor David Bryce from Australia, Hong Kong businessman David Wilkinson, and 18-year-old Briton Christopher Wilde.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Philippines Dismay over decision

PAT ROQUE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Catherine Nunez, right, breaks into tears after a press conference yesterday in Manila. Nunez, together with other relatives of slain journalists, expressed dismay on the justice secretary's decision to clear two members of the Ampatuan clan of charges they conspired in the massacre of 57 people.

News in brief

WASHINGTON The U.S. Supreme Court struck down a law yesterday aimed at banning videos that show graphic violence against animals, saying it violates the right to free speech. The justices, voting 8-1, threw out the conviction of Robert Stevens, who was sentenced to three years for videos he made about dog fights.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Worst yet to come?

Second Icelandic volcano may be primed for eruption

For all the worldwide chaos that Iceland's volcano has already created, it may just be the opening act.

Scientists fear tremors at the Eyjafjallajokull volcano could trigger an even more dangerous eruption at the nearby Katla volcano — creating a worst-case scenario for the airline industry and travellers around the globe.

A Katla eruption would be 10 times stronger and shoot higher and larger plumes of ash into the air than its smaller neighbour, which has already brought European air travel to a standstill for five days and promises severe travel delays for days more.

The two volcanos are side by side in southern Iceland, about 20 kilometres apart and thought to be connected by a network of magma channels.

Katla, however, is buried under ice 500 metres thick — the massive Myrdalsjokull glacier, one of Iceland's largest. That means it has more than twice the amount of ice that the current eruption has burned through — threatening a new and possibly longer aviation standstill across Europe.

Pall Einarsson, professor of geophysics at the Institute of Earth Sciences at the University of Iceland, said one volcanic eruption sometimes causes a nearby volcano to explode, and Katla and Eyjafjallajokull have been active in tandem in the past. In fact, the last three times that Eyjafjallajokull erupted, Katla did as well.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Heathrow opens

- London's Heathrow Airport reopened yesterday as air traffic across Europe lurched back to life.

What's the fallout if Iceland's volcano spews ash for months?

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Croc delays water aerobics class
The biweekly water aerobics class at a park in northern Australia was postponed yesterday when an unwanted guest entered the pool — a 1.5-metre long crocodile. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Canada joins countries concerned over Google

Officials from Canada, Germany, France and seven other countries are raising privacy concerns to Google over the online search leader's fumbled foray into social networking along with other matters.

Google launched Google Buzz as part of its Gmail service in February. It quickly came under fire for automatically creating public circles of friends for users, based on their most frequent Gmail contacts. After complaints, the company apologized and made changes to the service.

But in a letter sent Monday to Google CEO Eric Schmidt, the officials said they are still "extremely concerned about how a product with such significant privacy issues was launched in the first place."

Canadian Privacy Commissioner Jennifer Stoddart, who is among those who signed the letter, said corporations like Google pay lip service to privacy, but it's not always reflected in the launch of new products. Google Street View is another area of concern, with officials saying the company launched the mapping service — which includes street-level photos taken by cameras mounted on cars sweeping through neighbourhoods — without "due consideration of privacy and data protection laws and cultural norms."

"In that instance, you addressed privacy concerns related to such matters as the retention of unblurred facial images only after the fact, and there is continued concern about the adequacy of the information you provide before the images are captured," says the letter.

Stoddart, who is widely considered to be among those who have led the charge against perceived privacy shortfalls on the Internet, has posted the letter on the privacy commissioner's website at www.priv.gc.ca.

Google said it has "discussed all these issues publicly many times before and have nothing to add to today's letter."

The other countries that signed the letter are Ireland, Israel, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Spain and the United Kingdom. The officials called on Google to create default settings that protect users' privacy and to ensure that privacy control settings are prominent and easy to use.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **"You addressed privacy concerns related to such matters as the retention of unblurred facial images only after the fact."**
> Letter to Google on the company's Street View feature, signed by Canada's privacy commissioner Jennifer Stoddart and nine countries

Brazil **Natives protest dam**

ERALDO PERES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

An Indigenous man protests the construction of the Belo Monte hydroelectric dam project in the capital Brasilia yesterday. The planned project to dam the Xingu River, which feeds the Amazon, would be the third-largest such hydroelectric project in the world.

News in brief

CHURCH The detention of an 83-year-old priest for allegedly abusing boys as young as 12 in a case involving lurid videotape and a congressional investigation is the latest scandal to hit the Roman Catholic Church in Latin America. The allegations against Monsignor Luiz Marques Barbosa — and two other Brazilian priests — have made huge headlines throughout this Catholic nation and come amid accusations of sexual activity by priests across the region as well as in Europe and the U.S. The scandal erupted when Brazilian television network SBT last month broadcast a tape of Barbosa in bed with a 19-year-old that was widely distributed on the Internet.

CHINA The government ordered flags be flown at half-staff and a halt to all entertainment, including online games and sports events, for a national day of mourning to honour more than 2,000 people killed by an earthquake in a remote Tibetan region. Similar arrangements were made two years ago following a deadlier quake in Sichuan province that left nearly 90,000 dead or missing. Such high-profile displays of concern are also likely aimed at tamping any potential unrest among mostly Tibetan victims. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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Accused German bishop apologizes

A prominent German bishop accused of physical abuse and financial misconduct has offered an apology. Bishop Walter Mixa said in a statement yesterday, “I am pained in my heart and sorry for causing many people grief,” without specifying what he meant. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Bangkok luxury hotels close as tensions rising

Thailand’s bloody political crisis has been scaring away tourists for weeks but took a new turn yesterday when some of the capital’s finest hotels sent guests packing for fear of violence at their doorsteps.

The Grand Hyatt and InterContinental hotels in Bangkok told guests they would have to leave, while The Four Seasons remained open but closed all four of its restaurants and saw its cavernous lobby empty except for a few wilted orchids.

The hotels took action on one of the more relaxed days in the deadlock created by anti-government demonstrators who began occupying city streets more than five weeks ago. They abandoned plans to march into the heart of the capital’s central business district yesterday after soldiers in full combat gear were deployed to bar the way.

18 days

- The Red Shirts have occupied the capital’s luxury hotel and shopping district for 18 days in their six-week bid to overthrow the government. Upscale malls closed almost immediately.

However, the failure to march did nothing to ease tensions.

The so-called “Red Shirt” protesters reinforced defences at their urban encampment and prepared homemade weapons, including hundreds of sharpened bamboo poles.

The army in response said it would be prepared to use greater force in any confrontations because of the danger posed by the weapons.

“The situation is very tense. We are relocating guests to other hotels for their safety,” said Patty Lerdwittayaskul, a spokeswoman at the 380-room Grand Hyatt Erawan, which announced its closure until at least Saturday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Somali pirates seize 3 Thai fishing vessels

SEA Somali pirates hijacked three Thai fishing vessels with 77 crew aboard more than 1,930 kilometres off the Somali coast, the farthest-off-shore attack to date, the EU Naval Force said yesterday.

Pirates have expanded their range south and east in response to an increase in patrols by European and American warships off the Somali shore.

The hijacking of the three Thai vessels Sunday was almost 600 miles outside the normal operation area for the EU Naval Force, said its spokesman, Cmdr. John Harbour.

The EU Naval Force said the attack so far out at sea was a clear indication that the EU, NATO and U.S.-led anti-piracy missions were having a “marked effect on pirate activity in the area.”

The three vessels — the MV Prantalay 11, 12, and 14 — have 77 crew onboard in total.

All the crew are Thai, Harbour said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

BOY SCOUTS An Oregon jury yesterday was expected to begin considering millions of dollars more in possible damages against the Boy Scouts of America in a case involving a man who was repeatedly molested by an assistant Scoutmaster. The jury has already awarded $1.4 million to Kerry Lewis, 38, for the 1980s abuse and could decide the Irving, Texas-based Boy Scouts organization must pay as much as $25 million more in punitive damages.

POLYGAMY A ruling party lawmaker and his second wife pleaded guilty yesterday to entering into a polygamous marriage without official consent amid a debate in Malaysia over Islamic morality among politicians. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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Man loses iPad, pinky finger in theft

A thief's thirst for a brand new iPad cost a Colorado man not only a much-coveted device but also two-thirds of a pinky finger, police said. Doctors had to amputate part of Bill Jordan's left pinky after a man yanked away a bag containing an iPad that Jordan had just purchased at a Denver mall. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Public Notice for Adult Ontarians Living with Diabetes

Living with diabetes is not easy, but managing it day-to-day really means taking good care of yourself.

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For more information about the collection, use and disclosure of your personal health information for the purposes of the Diabetes Testing Report, or if, at any time, you change your mind about having your information included in future Diabetes Testing Reports, call **ServiceOntario** at the numbers listed above. For more information about diabetes, visit **Ontario.ca/diabetes**

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Ontario

Discovery makes 'beautiful entry'

Shuttle Discovery and its astronauts returned safely to Earth yesterday after making a rare flyover of America's heartland to wrap up their 15-day, 9.7-million kilometre journey to the International Space Station.

The touchdown was delayed by rain and fog that dissipated as the sun rose, allowing Mission Control to take advantage of the morning's second landing opportunity.

Shuttle commander Alan Poindexter held a small U.S. flag as he stood in front of Discovery, two hours later, and described the "beautiful entry."

"We got the bonus of coming over the entire United States, and it was just absolutely gorgeous," said Poindexter, flanked by his six crewmates. "The entire entry track took us over the Rockies and over the Midwest and across the Mississippi Delta. It was just a fantastic entry."

Discovery swooped through a hazy sky before landing a day late because of rain.

Within a few hours of completing what one NASA manager described as an "unbelievably successful mission," the space agency was announcing delays to its last two shuttle flights.

NASA almost certainly will need to keep the shuttles flying beyond the advertised September retirement date, said Mike Moses, a launch manager. He stressed the intention still is to wrap everything up by year's end. A final launch schedule is expected in the next few weeks.

No matter what, this was Discovery's next-to-last flight. Only one more mission remains for NASA's oldest surviving shuttle. Once removed from the runway, it was going to start undergoing preparations for a fall launch.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Long way home

- Discovery zoomed over the North Pacific on its way home before crossing into North America over Vancouver. Then it headed toward the southeast, flying over Washington, Montana, Wyoming, Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and finally Florida east of Gainesville.

U.S. school district admits taking secret webcam photos

LAPTOPS A suburban school district secretly captured at least 56,000 webcam photographs and screen shots from laptops issued to high school students, its lawyer acknowledged Monday.

"It's clear there were students who were likely captured in their homes," said lawyer Henry Hockeimer, who represents the Lower Merion School District.

None of the images, captured by a tracking program to find missing computers, appeared to be salacious or inappropriate, he said. The district said it remotely activated the tracking software to find 80 missing laptops in the past two years.

The Philadelphia Inquirer first reported Monday on the large number of images recovered from school servers by forensic computer experts, who were hired after student Blake Robbins filed suit over the tracking practice. Robbins still doesn't know why the district deployed the software tracking program on his computer, as he had not reported it lost or stolen, his lawyer said. The FBI has opened a criminal investigation into possible wiretap violations by the district.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

TECH Companies across the technology industry — from Internet access providers to social networking sites to video-sharing services — are bracing for this week's release of a draft of a trade agreement that they fear could undermine all sorts of online activities. The agreement, being negotiated by the United States and nearly a dozen trading partners, is intended to create an international framework to crack down on counterfeiting, copyright violations and other intellectual property theft.

WAR A new British opinion poll says the Afghanistan war won't be a major factor in the country's national election. Before a televised debate on foreign policy Thursday between party leaders, ComRes found 65 per cent of voters say the war isn't a key issue.

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Comment

Obscured by clouds

TheWestView

Paul Sullivan

metronews.ca/thewestview

Can you say Eyjafjallajökull? Never mind. It's hard enough just spelling it.

The aforementioned Icelandic tongue tickler doesn't have the same electrifying verbal impact as Krakatoa or Vesuvius, both of which sound appropriately volcanic.

Krakatoa Katie, she weren't no lady, but Eyjafjallajökull has wreaked global havoc just the same, thanks to tonnes of volcanic ash it has unleashed into the atmosphere, shutting down flights over Europe. Turns out jet engines and grit don't go together.

In the last week, the cost of Eyjafjallajökull's eruption has been more than 9-11. The airline industry alone is losing $200 million per day, never mind tourism, trade, financials and all of the industries that rely on intercontinental air travel to keep them going.

And as I write, that damn volcano is belching new clouds of ash into the atmosphere, releasing more carbon than the annual output of a mid-size European country like Sweden or Poland.

Remember when air travel was a glamorous adventure? Now, thanks to Eyjafjallajökull and al-Qaida, it's a black comedy set entirely in the "terminal," a word with chilling implications: If the volcano keeps going, as volcanoes do, it could shut down air travel for years.

"If the volcano keeps going, as volcanoes do, it could shut down air travel for years."

And what would that mean if we couldn't fly any more?

Civilization lapses back into the slow lane. Even the fastest train travels at less than half the speed of a commercial jet into a headwind.

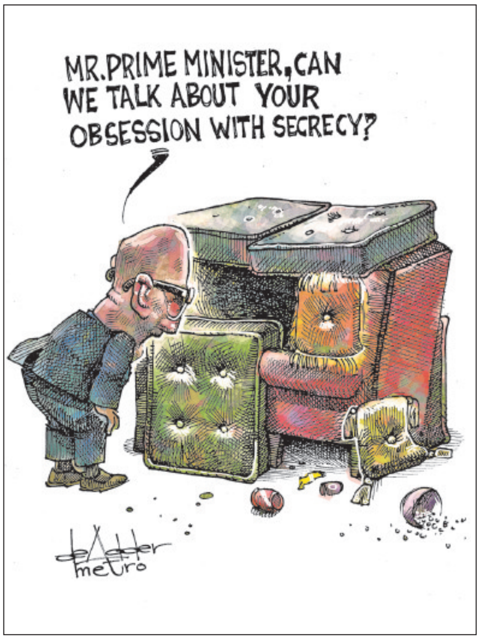
It's difficult to imagine. No more strawberries from South America in January. We'd have to gnaw on roots from the cellar during those long winter months. Eat local ... or starve.

Distances become meaningful again as we are forced to relax into road trips and slow boats to everywhere. Exotic locales become exotic again, and that includes Hawaii, Puerto Vallarta and Pismo Beach. We are forced, by necessity, to rediscover our own neighbourhoods and communities. All roads lead through Winnipeg, the Chicago of the North.

The recovery of the economy, which depends on the speed of sound for its bounce, lapses into a slow turnaround, and multinationals lose their prefixes. Web conferences turn convention centres and hotels into mausoleums. We plow them up into urban gardens and grow parsnips to supplement our meagre meals.

How likely is this nightmare scenario? Not very. (Which is almost too bad: It has a dreamy dimension that's hard to deny.) At some point, the human enterprise will rise to the challenge and build a volcano-proof jet. But the lesson is clear: Don't discount Mother Nature just yet. She's full of hard-to-spell surprises.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.


MR.PRIME MINISTER, CAN WE TALK ABOUT YOUR OBSESSION WITH SECRECY?
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MICHAEL DE ADDER

Word on the street: What are you doing to mark Earth Day tomorrow?

Dave Bergeron
Ottawa

A: I'm not going to use my car.

Brian Hoang
Ottawa

A: Now that I know about it, I'll probably plant a tree.

Colin Marvin
Ottawa

A: I don't have a car, and I take the bus and walk everywhere.

Christal Gardiola
Toronto

A: I'll stop bringing plastic water bottles everywhere, and I'll unplug my computer when I go to sleep because I usually never do that.

Ernie Stuart
Halifax

A: I plan on going out and doing the basic things like not using power. I'm going to clean my house and do all my recycling that day.

Kristen Kapty
Edmonton

A: I am going to take public transportation and maybe go outside if it's nice. I think it's important to try to save fuel on Earth Day.

Worth mentioning

Bang goes the theory for online brain games

People playing computer games to train their brains might as well be playing Super Mario, new research suggests.

In a six-week study, experts found people who played online games designed to improve their cognitive skills didn't get any smarter.

Researchers recruited participants from viewers of the BBC's science show Bang Goes The Theory. More than 8,600 people aged 18 to 60 were asked to play online brain games designed by the researchers to improve their memory, reasoning and other skills for at least 10 minutes per day, three times per week.

They were compared to more than 2,700 people who didn't play any brain games, but spent a similar amount of time surfing the Internet and answering general knowledge questions. All participants were given a sort of IQ test before and after the experiment.

Researchers said the people who did the brain training didn't do any better on the test after six weeks than people who had simply been on the Internet.

The study was paid for by the BBC and published online yesterday by the journal Nature.

"If you're (playing these games) because they're fun, that's absolutely fine," said Adrian Owen, assistant director of the Cognition and Brain Sciences unit at Britain's Medical Research Council, the study's lead author. "But if you're expecting (these games) to improve your IQ, our data suggests this isn't the case," he said during a press briefing yesterday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cognitive skills

- Computer games available online and marketed by companies like Nintendo that supposedly enhance memory, reasoning and other cognitive skills are played by millions of people worldwide, though few studies have examined if the games work.

Tell us your views by email to ottawaletters@metronews.ca or comment on metronews.ca or on Twitter @metroottawa

Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number – street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

Economy hurting sales of Harleys

Harley-Davidson Inc. said yesterday its first-quarter profit fell 72 per cent as sales of its high-end motorcycles remained sluggish. CEO Keith Wandell said the uncertain economy is likely to make business conditions challenging this year. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Business

DOLLAR	N.GAS	OIL	TSX
US 100.12¢	US $3.96	US $83.85	12,113.53
US 1.58¢	US 1.7¢	US 72¢	10.56

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Global banks could save billions: IMF

RECOVERY The world's banks could be spared billions in losses thanks to a global economy that is recovering from the financial meltdown more quickly than initially expected.

The International Monetary Fund is forecasting that global bank losses from the financial crisis will total $2.28 trillion US, a drop of $533 billion from an estimate made last October. The IMF said yesterday that its forecast for losses just for U.S. banks had dropped to $885 billion, down from an estimate of $1.03 trillion made in October. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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BoC boosts Loonie

The loonie posted its biggest single-day gain in nine months yesterday following a bullish economic forecast from Canada's central bank.

The Canadian dollar was up 1.58 cents at 100.12 cents US after the Bank of Canada signalled it may raise rates very soon — a move that would likely increase international demand for Canadian bonds and dollars. Earlier, the loonie had gained as much as 1.76 cents to 100.30 cents US.

The central bank projected that Canada's economy will grow a faster-than-expected 3.7 per cent this year, and inflation will also move higher. In its last forecast in January, the bank said the economy would grow 2.9 per cent in 2010.

Because of the strong economic outlook, the Bank of Canada said it was withdrawing its conditional commitment to keep the key lending rate at its current record low of 0.25 per cent until the end of June. That sets the stage for a quarter-point or even a half-point hike on June 1.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

1.58 The Canadian dollar jumped 1.58 cents US yesterday, thanks in part to the Bank of Canada signalling it may raise interest rates.

Business in brief

OILSANDS Conservation groups say Alberta is backing away from a proposal to force energy companies to restore environmentally important wetlands ruined by oilsands projects. The Sierra Club of Canada says the government's plan doesn't include a "no-net-loss" wetlands policy recommended by the Alberta Water Council. Opponents say the policy would be too expensive. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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Reds pitcher suspended 50 games

Former all-star pitcher Edinson Volquez of the Cincinnati Reds was suspended 50 games yesterday following a positive test for a performance-enhancing drug. Volquez said in a statement he received a prescription in the Dominican Republic as part of treatment to start a family with his wife. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports

Ochoa announces retirement

Lorena Ochoa, left, became the second LPGA Tour star in three years to step away from golf — following Annika Sorenstam in 2008 — when she announced her retirement yesterday. The 28-year-old Mexican published a statement on her website and will discuss her plans at a Friday news conference. Ochoa had more than $14.8 million US in career LPGA earnings. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Sports in brief

BASEBALL Colorado Rockies president Keli McGregor has died in a hotel room in Salt Lake City, police said yesterday. The Rockies said McGregor, 48, was on a business trip.

BASEBALL Major League Baseball has dropped its five-game suspension of Seattle Mariners pitcher Cliff Lee. The team said yesterday that MLB vice-president of administration John McHale made the decision after Lee's appeal hearing last week.

NBA Dwight Howard has won his second straight NBA defensive player of the year award after becoming the only player to lead the league in blocks and rebounds in the same season twice.

NFL The Buffalo Bills will host the Chicago Bears in a regular-season game in Toronto this November, the NFL team announced yesterday. The Bills and Bears will square off Nov. 7 at the Rogers Centre. It will be the fifth game of Buffalo's eight-game series in Toronto through the 2012 season.

NHL Pavel Datsyuk will be looking for a third straight Selke Trophy at the NHL awards in June. The Detroit Red Wings star was nominated for the league's top defensive forward yesterday, joining Ryan Kesler of the Vancouver Canucks and Jordan Staal of the Pittsburgh Penguins.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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PHILLIP MACCALLUM/GETTY IMAGES

Sidney Crosby of the Pittsburgh Penguins tries to carry the puck to the front of the net with Chris Campoli of the Ottawa Senators in pursuit last night at Scotiabank Place. Pittsburgh won 7-4.

Sens pushed to brink

(Pittsburgh leads series 3-1)

Penguins 7 **Senators** 4

VS

Sidney Crosby continued his dominance over the Senators with two goals and two assists last night, and his Pittsburgh Penguins took a 3-1 lead in the Eastern Conference quarter-final series with a 7-4 victory.

Crosby now has 11 points in four games in the best-of-seven series and, in large part because of his efforts, the Penguins have a chance to eliminate the Senators at home tomorrow night.

Evgeni Malkin, on the power play, and Matt Cooke joined Crosby on the scoresheet as the Penguins jumped out to a 4-0 lead before a sellout crowd of 20,014 at Scotiabank Place, which may have just witnessed their final game in the building for the season.

Those four goals came on 19 shots against Senators starting goaltender Brian Elliott, who made way for Pascal Leclaire following Crosby's second goal early in the second period.

Although the Senators attempted to get back into the game with the help of their power play, they couldn't avoid being pushed to the brink by the reigning Stanley Cup champions.

Matt Cullen scored once and set up two goals for the Senators, who managed a couple of power-play markers during 5-on-3 advantages.

Daniel Alfredsson and Jason Spezza, who've both come under fire for their lack of production so far in the series, each had their first goals and an assist and Chris Neil also scored.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SCOREBOARD

NHL

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Pittsburgh 7 OTTAWA 4
Detroit 3 Phoenix 0
Philadelphia 4 New Jersey 1
Chicago at Nashville
San Jose at Colorado

NBA

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Atlanta 96 Milwaukee 86
Boston 106 Miami 77
Oklahoma City at L.A. Lakers
Portland at Phoenix

BASEBALL

YESTERDAY'S AL RESULTS

Toronto 4 Kansas City 3
Minnesota 5 Cleveland 1
Chicago White Sox 4 Tampa Bay 1
Boston 7 Texas 6
Detroit at L.A. Angels
N.Y. Yankees at Oakland
Baltimore at Seattle

YESTERDAY'S NL RESULTS

Milwaukee 8 Pittsburgh 1
N.Y. Mets 4 Chicago Cubs 0
Cincinnati 11 L.A. Dodgers 9
Atlanta 4 Philadelphia 3 (10 ings)
Colorado 10 Washington 4
Houston 7 Florida 5
St. Louis at Arizona
San Francisco at San Diego

Cap situation worse than it first appears

TheHockeyNews

Brian Costello

thehockeynews.com

Regardless of how the Ottawa Senators' first-round series against the Pittsburgh Penguins ultimately turns out, the team has some pressing concerns that need to be addressed, all of which relate to payroll.

It's no surprise the Senators are in a salary cap crunch, given the fact they have 10 NHL-calibre forwards, five defencemen and two goaltenders under contract for next season.

There are a lot of teams in the NHL that would kill to have the Senators' cap woes.

Assuming the cap stays about the same, the Senators will have a cushion somewhere in the neighbourhood of $7.5 million going into the summer.

All of which looks great, but you have to remember that's predicated on the assumption that ownership will be willing to continue to eat Jonathan Cheechoo's $3-million salary by keeping him in the minors next season. And when you consider they have to sign or replace restricted free agents Nick Foligno, Peter Regin, Jesse Winchester and Chris Campoli, and a huge unrestricted free agent in Anton Volchenkov, that cap space will evaporate in a hurry.

The most important of the signings is Volchenkov, given that the others are restricted and have far fewer options than the Senators' best defensive and shot-blocking defenceman.

There is little doubt Volchenkov will be looking for a substantial raise on his $2.5-million cap hit (he actually made $3.2 million in real money this past season) and a long-term deal that will include a no-movement clause and make him the Senators' top-paid defenceman.

Can the Senators afford to give it to him? The better question is, can they afford not to do so? Volchenkov led all Senators in blocked shots with 172, led all defencemen in hits with 153 and combined with Chris Phillips to form the top shutdown and penalty killing tandem.

And the fact that he's just 28 indicates his best years could be ahead of him. The only downside is that because of the style he plays, he has missed an average of 16 games a season the past three years because of injury.

If the Senators sign him to a long-term, big-money deal and he begins to break down, what happens then?

It's a risk the Senators will almost certainly take. Expect them to do everything in their power to keep him on their blue-line for years to come.

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Me to We speaker to skydive handcuffed for charity

Scott Hammell, a motivational speaker with Me to We, plans to plummet from 11,000 feet while trying to remove handcuffs in time to deploy his parachute to help students at Monsignor Percy Johnson C.S.S. in Toronto raise funds to help build a school in Ecuador. The jump will take place in early May. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

NATIONAL Volunteer Week

EDITOR: SARAH.CAIRNS@METRONEWS.CA

Help line does ‘fabulous’ work for kids

18 million reach out for advice on depression, drug use and bullying in 2009

TRACEY TONG
tracey.tong@metronews.ca

When Heather McInroy was in high school, she had a friend who used Kids Help Phone.

After hearing about how much it helped her friend — and needing 40 hours of volunteer work to graduate — the Toronto resident became a student ambassador for the non-profit charity.

She soon completed her 40 hours, but decided to keep volunteering.

“I really liked the people I worked with and volunteered with,” said McInroy.

Now 20, the York University student has been volunteering with Kids Help Phone for six years. A student ambassador liaison, she does fundraisers and volunteer events, participates in the Walk for Kids Help Phone and speaks about the organizations at schools and for corporate sponsors.

Knowledge of the organization has changed since it began in 1989, said McInroy.

“Before, there were a lot of misconceptions about Kids Help Phone,” she said. “Now, when I go to schools, a lot of kids will already know about it.”

The organization has really grown, agreed Kids Help Phone Ottawa chapter chairman and past chairman of the Walk for Kids Help Phone committee Rob Dekker.

“I think there is a greater awareness of what Kids Help Phone is and what it does,” the Ottawa resident said.

The organization “does fabulous work for kids across the country and for local children as well,” he said.

Last year, there were 100,000 contacts through websites and phone calls from children in Ottawa, Dekker said. Canada-wide, there were 18 million contacts in 2009.

Kids ask about bullying, depression, drug use, peer pressure and how to deal with family situations, he said.

“It’s such an integral service,” he said. “Kids can connect immediately and confidentially.

“I think the website is key because the kids can go to the website and find a similar situation and follow the counselor’s advice through the posting,” he said.

“When issues are too difficult to discuss, the concern is too embarrassing to share, or when a child feels they might burden a trusted adult, any kid with access to a phone or computer can reach out to Kids Help Phone,” said Sharon Wood, president and CEO of Kids Help Phone.

Dekker said he’s seen his own two kids, now 15 and 18, go through different things.

“I know they won’t come to me for everything,” he said, “but it’s important to me they have a place to go.”

To talk call 1.800. 688.6868

Correction

- The name of So You Think You Can Dance Canada’s Tre Armstrong appeared incorrectly in a photo cutline for the Take a Dip story in yesterday’s edition of Metro.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Manitoba school to get new mining technology
A consortium of industry and public-sector partners will soon unveil plans for a state-of-the-art mining academy in Flin Flon, Man.. Sources say the Northern Manitoba Mining Academy may include the latest technology in automated underground mining equipment simulators previously unavailable in the province. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Workology

Grad time tied to resources

A new study from the U.S.-based National Bureau of Economic Research suggests that the increase in the length of time needed to complete a baccalaureate degree in recent decades is concentrated among students who enrol at less competitive 4-year institutions and at community colleges. Results suggest that declines in collegiate resources in the less-selective public sector increased degree-completion time. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Knowledge key to new economy

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

In the new economy, old jobs require new skills and new jobs outnumber traditional ones so educational institutions need new teaching approaches to prepare students.

Michael Cooke, vice president of academic and advancement at George Brown College, says the increasingly knowledge-based economy means schools have to teach a much wider set of skills to students regardless of field.

"The nature of the economy has shifted in fundamental ways. Increasingly it's an economy driven by knowledge, information and services and we need to be preparing students today who can invent answers to all the new questions that arise," Cooke said.

Companies are leveraging employees' skills in ways that would have been surprising 10 years ago, Cooke says. Skills from a relatively new field like game design, for example, can be applied to things as varied as bank machines and online ticketing while technology has facilitated the creation of entirely new career paths like health informatics, which deals with the creation and management of computer-driven health records and databases.

Even old careers like construction have completely new requirements where an emphasis on raw skills has been replaced by the need for practitioners versed also in technological collaboration, ecological methods, health and safety concerns and cost management. The management and manipulation of information itself has become just as crucial as foundational skills in most jobs.

RAFAEL BRUSILOW/FOR METRO CANADA

Believe it or not, skills gained in new programs such as George Brown's video game design can translate into skills needed for working with bank machines, among other things.

"There are new jobs which are emerging rapidly and changing quickly compared to traditional jobs. In the past I don't think a nurse would have thought, 'I have to have great computer skills,' but today they have to. Even a car mechanic has to be a computer technician," Cooke said.

For 42-year-old former office secretary Cathy Cope, changing careers was a necessity after she lost her job. Now, after graduating from George Brown last December, she works as a career counsellor — a job she never even imagined doing when she started working 20 years ago.

Jessi Gillis, 23, a third-year Business Administration student at George Brown, is project manager of the Solid Ground literacy project at the school which provides financial educational for adults with developmental disabilities. She says she chose a program that offered a wide array of business skill training because she feels it will better prepare her for the real world.

"My generation is not focussed on the idea of one career — we're about building on many different careers and using those skills we've acquired to go for different opportunities in the workplace. I feel pretty confident I'll be able to find a job I'm interested in with the skills I'm learning now," Gillis said.

Food, water insecurity could impact business landscape

Political and financial instability remain a feature of the business landscape as a result of the recession, according to Aon Risk Services, the global risk management and insurance brokerage business of Aon Corporation. The company launched its 17th annual political risk map earlier this year.

The 2010 map introduces new indices looking at food, agricultural commodity and water supplies.

Sam Wilkin, associate director of the consultancy practice at Oxford Analytica, explains: "For the past 20 years, global population growth has outpaced growth in agricultural output. A run up in world food prices in 2007 and 2008 led to dramatic geopolitical events, from food riots in India, to worker unrest in Cambodia. Last month the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations warned that global food prices could quickly rise again.

> **"With global warming changing regional climates and weather patterns and driving demand for bio-fuels, the world faces unprecedented food and water risks."**
> Sam Wilkin, Oxford Analytica associated director

"With global warming changing regional climates and weather patterns and driving demand for bio-fuels, the world faces unprecedented food and water risks"

There are two new icons on Aon's 2010 risk map: food and water insecurity.

They have been applied to the 30 most 'high risk''-countries — that is those countries potentially facing the most severe food and water insecurity in the medium to long term. These are all developing countries, mostly in Africa, which is in keeping with the conventional wisdom that the impacts of climate change will rebound hardest on the countries least responsible for global warming.

Many of the world's most productive agricultural regions are expected to see a decline in productivity if temperatures rise.

"Cocoa tops the 2010 Agricultural Commodity Supply Risk Index by some margin, as more than 75 per cent of global production is concentrated in four countries at significant risk of supply disruption," said Wilkin.

The food and water insecurity indices are not meant to be alarmist, according to Roger Schwartz, senior vice president of Aon Trade Credit.

"They are forward-looking assessments designed to be an 'early warning.'"

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Student group calls for health coverage for international students
The Ontario chapter of the Canadian Federation of Students is calling for Ontario Health Insurance Plan coverage to be extended to international students, who have been excluded from OHIP since 1994. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Tribunals cause for employers concern

WorkplaceLaw

Daniel Lublin

Metronews.ca/workplacelaw

HENRY STANCU/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES

Jessica Maciel and her son, 10-month-old Anthony, at home in Mississauga, Ont. The young mother was awarded $35,000 for a human rights violation after she lost her job because she was pregnant with the soon-to-be cute Anthony.

Canadian employers have historically taken an ignorant view of human rights tribunals and their often extraordinary decisions. But that may be quickly changing. Because of sweeping changes to human rights legislation and left-leaning adjudicators directed to interpret remedial legislation, such as human rights laws, in a broad and inclusive manner, employers should be very concerned. Here are some of the reasons why.

Broadcasting cases: when Jessica Maciel was fired from a hair salon after disclosing she was pregnant, the Ontario Human Rights Tribunal found her termination was due to her pregnancy. She was awarded $35,000 for lost wages, benefits and "punitive" damages.

The decision, while not novel, should give employers pause for two reasons. First, the Human Rights Legal Support Centre, a government-sponsored program that argues cases of discrimination on behalf of employees, sent out a mass press release broadcasting the decision. Employers rarely had to concern themselves with negative public scrutiny arising from seeing their names widely broadcast on the wrong side of a press release — until now.

Second, the broad panoply of potential damage awards for human rights violations considerably increases the scope and unpredictability of human rights litigation before provincial tribunals. Despite having worked for only one day, Maciel was awarded damages with little or no relationship to her actual losses. It is no wonder so many employees choose to claim damages before provincial tribunals instead taking their chances in the courts.

Cost awards: In civil court cases, the losing party pays a component of the winner's legal costs and cases cannot be summarily withdrawn without paying costs to the other side. Both rules deter frivolous or vexatious lawsuits from proceeding. But this is not so in the human rights regime, where employers must generally pay their own legal costs, no matter what the outcome. Employers are forced to settle many unmeritorious cases simply to avoid escalating legal fees.

Further, in Ontario, the aforementioned Legal Support Centre often advances cases on behalf of employees, without charging them a dime. Those claimants who can afford lawyers can opt to fire them and then qualify for free representation from the Centre.

Assumed jurisdiction: The most ridiculous aspect of Canadian human rights laws is that the tribunals often assume their jurisdiction to hear quasi-discriminatory matters before a hearing to determine whether that jurisdiction even exists. In B.C., the Tribunal is currently hearing the case of Lorna Pardy, a lesbian who accused a comedian of discriminating against her at a nightclub, before a hearing takes place establishing the Tribunal's jurisdiction. It appears the Tribunal has it backwards.

Daniel A. Lublin is an employment lawyer with Whitten & Lublin LLP. Reach him at dan@toronto-employmentlawyer.com.

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College graduates getting jobs, employers happy with hires: Study

According to Key Performance Indicators data released yesterday for Ontario colleges, nearly 85 per cent of the 2008-09 graduates found work within six months following graduation. 93 per cent of employers were satisfied or very satisfied with the quality of college graduates they hired. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

To earn now or learn for later?

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Halifax

The last few years have seen a decline in employment among young Canadians almost matched by a rise in enrolment in graduate school, according to Statistics Canada figures.

The number of grad students rose by five percentage points in the 2007/2008 academic year and the employment rate among Canadians aged 15 to 24 declined by 8.7 percentage points between 2008 and 2009.

David Ablett, a financial planner with Investors Group in Winnipeg, says people should weigh the investment required for upgrading education against the likely benefits.

"Grad school can offer career opportunity, personal growth, fulfillment and achievement. It can also leave you in considerable debt," says Ablett. "When weighing the options, it's best to understand the ways you'll finance your decision."

FLICKR: RKLEINE

University graduates have a tough decision whether to get a job and earn income or aim for a post-grad program.

He cites Stats Can figures for 2005 saying the average income for a person with a bachelors degree was $58,767. For a grad degree, that rose 18 per cent to $69,230. Over a 30-year working period, that would equal an earnings boost of about $313,890.

An MBA costs about $50,000 on average and an EMBA (executive MBA) about $90,000. If a student had to borrow the entire cost, a debt of $50,000 would take 15 years of $400-a-month payments at five per cent interest to clear.

Further education also takes you out of the workforce for a number of years, costing several years' salary.

"Investing in education can be lucrative, but it is a big financial commitment and the decision needs to be weighed along with other life goals like owning a home, providing for a family and your retirement," Ablett says.

Would-be students in the workforce have advantages, he adds. They might have enough in savings to pay for all or part of their educational upgrade, including money drawn from RRSPs via tax-free withdrawals with the life-long learning program.

"You can take out up to $20,000 over a four-year period. Once you've finished your course of study, you've got ten years to make the repayments to your plan," he says.

Workers can also take advantage of the tax-free savings account introduced a couple of years ago to sock away savings for future studies. Potential students should also check out what bursaries and grants are available to offset the cost of tuition. Women pursuing doctoral studies, for example, can apply for a Canada Study Grant, Ablett notes.

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MyFord Touch coming
Ford has announced its new MyFord Touch technology will launch this summer on the 2011 Ford Edge and be available globally on the 2012 Focus. CANADIANDRIVER.COM

Metro Drive

Fresh air on wheels

A Chinese car is turning the laws of physics over its head. The Shanghai Automotive Industry Corp. has come up with the Ye Zi concept that runs on renewable energy and somehow emits oxygen, making it the world's first "carbon negative" car. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

Versa shows class

MARK ATKINSON
for Metro Canada

When it came to entry-level cars, there used to be only a couple that were really worth the money.

The rest were playing off either their low price or buyers' ignorance about just how nice a car you can get for very little money.

In 2010, that ratio has virtually flipped, with an increasing number of hits and much fewer misses. And it seems like nearly every week there's some other company trying to break in.

Nissan has generally been on the "inside" with its small offerings, but this is especially true with its entry-level Versa.

Although it hasn't changed much in the three years since its launch, it remains an impressive lesson in packaging.

Somehow, Nissan managed to carve out a relatively grand interior from a modestly sized body. The design is hit-or-miss, though. The five-door hatch is pert, if not pretty, but the four-door sedan is awkward and best forgotten.

While there is a four-door door-crasher special with a less powerful 1.6-litre four-cylinder engine, starting with the hatchback improves things considerably.

Using a 122-hp 1.8-litre engine, the Versa is not a rocket, but using the six-speed manual transmission means it's easy to control.

The optional continuously variable transmission (CVT) isn't horrible if you can't or won't drive a stick. Fuel mileage is good given its competition at 7.9/6.3 L/100 km (city/hwy), so you'll stretch out your dollar between fill-ups.

Get behind the wheel, and you're presented with a simple, modern cabin with easy-to-reach controls and legible instruments. You always feel perched in the driver's seat, the better to maximize interior space.

Rear-seat passengers aren't ignored either, with generous leg room. Cargo space is limited, but there's room for groceries or other sundries.

Get out on the road, and the little Nissan's manners are comfortable, but not especially sporty. It doesn't flop like a fish, but it's no corner carver.

Acceleration is acceptable, and good gearing means it doesn't inspire panic during passing manoeuvres. The brakes are capable but wouldn't be up for track work...

The best part is that Versa starts at a very reasonable $14,198 although if you bring straight cash, you can get into a no-option sedan for four figures.

Nissan's biggest problem? That the Versa is so good at its job that the current one-size-up Sentra still can't deliver a solid reason why anyone should spend the extra money.

2010 **Nissan Versa**

Type: Compact sedan/ hatchback
Price: from $14,918
Engine: 1.6L/1.8L
Fuel Economy: 7.9/6.3L/100km (city/hwy)

Highlights

- Modern interiors
- Generous leg room for back-seat passengers
- Affordable price
- Capable handling

Inside, the Nissan Versa boasts a simple, modern cabin with easy-to-reach controls and legible instruments.

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2010 Matrix

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XR model shown

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all-in lease* $159* @ 0.9% APR

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HWY 6.2L/100 KM (46 MPG)† CITY 7.8L/100 KM (36 MPG)†

2010 Yaris

0% APR¥ Purchase financing for **60 months.**

all-in lease* $139* @ 1.9% APR

per month for 60 months with $3,550 down. Includes freight and fees. GST and PST are extra.

HWY 5.5L/100 KM (51 MPG)† CITY 6.9L/100 KM (41 MPG)†

2010 Corolla CE

0% APR¥ Purchase financing for **60 months.**

all-in lease* $149* @ 0.9% APR

per month for 48 months with $3,500 down. Includes freight and fees. GST and PST are extra.

HWY 5.6L/100 KM (50 MPG)† CITY 7.5L/100 KM (38 MPG)†

MADE IN CANADA

2010 Camry LE

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all-in lease* $249* @ 1.9% APR

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HWY 6.1L/100 KM (46 MPG)† CITY 9.0L/100 KM (31 MPG)†

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TOYOTA grad program

All ears for social media

J.D. Power has launched a new data platform, the Auto Intelligence Monitor, which "listens" to unprompted consumer conversations in social media and allows automakers to assess new-vehicle launches, brand images and marketing strategies in new ways. **CANADIANDRIVER.COM**

Head-scratchers and showstoppers

AutoPilot

Michael Goetz

metronews.ca/autopilot

The auto show "season" is more or less over. It starts every fall, in either Paris or Frankfurt, and winds up in April in New York.

In the intervening months we see major auto shows in places like Tokyo, Shanghai, Detroit, Montreal, Chicago, Toronto, Geneva, Vancouver, and this year even Flin Flon — though that was probably an accident and not likely to be repeated.

So let's take stock of some of the finer and/or more interesting debuts we saw this season, because they could represent significant trends moving forward, and it's never a bad idea to contemplate bright, shiny objects.

Personal Transport Re-Think

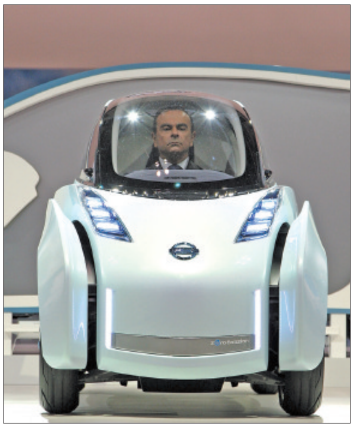
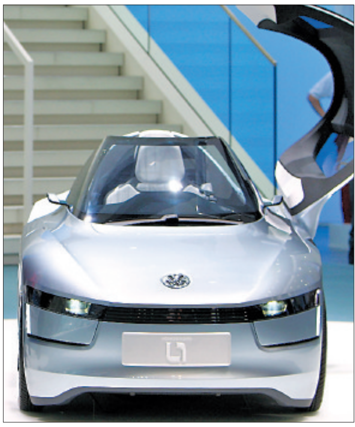
Of the "envelope pushers" concepts brought to light this year, my faves were the Volkswagen L1 and Nissan Land Glider. Both position the passenger directly behind the driver, like on a motorcycle. The L1 is so named because its diesel-electric powertrain only needs 1 L of fuel to travel 100 kms. It looks like a big cigar, or worse.

The Nissan Glider is an EV, but its most cunning attribute is that it can lean like a motorcycle (up to 17 degrees), which should make it a blast (or at least interesting) to drive.

Also of note in this category is the Honda 3R-C Concept, a fully enclosed single-seat, three-wheeled device running on battery power. It looks aggressively high-tech, I'm guessing, so maybe you don't feel so vulnerable in your smallness.

Future High performance

This is a really exciting category, as automakers are realizing that electric power can simultaneously boost power and lower emissions. When you make stunning e-rides like the Audi e-Tron concepts, our conversion to electric propulsion will be done with little duress.

GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

The auto show season gave us the envelope-pushing Nissan Land Glider, left, and the VW L1.

One of the genuine surprises at the recent Geneva show was another car in this vein — the Porsche 918 Spyder. This concept combines the 500-hp V8 from the RS prototype races with two electric motors, for an additional 218 horses. It can go 198 mph and get 78 mpg if you baby it.

Significant high volume

The 2012 Focus compact represents Ford's first truly global platform — versions will be literally made and sold in every corner of the planet. A slick wagon/minivan version called C-Max is particularly compelling. Aided by the equally new Fiesta, it should re-establish Ford as a small-vehicle powerhouse.

The new Buick Regal is equally global; it's currently produced in China where it's selling like hot cakes, and will soon be built in Canada.

It's based on platform that also underpins Open Insignia, Buick LaCrosse, and the upcoming Cadillac XTS. The Regal GS concept unveiled in Detroit, with all-wheel drive and a 255-hp 2.0-litre turbo, tells us that Buick is (finally) serious about attracting younger buyers.

Significant head-scratchers

At Detroit, sitting by itself, with no display material or fanfare was a Lancia Delta fitted with a Chrysler grille. Lancia is one of the brands owned by Chrysler's parent company, Fiat. Not only did it seem odd, but also no one at Chrysler seemed interested in conveying why it was there.

Equally upsetting was the Aston Martin Cygnet — a very small and cheap Toyota iQ dressed in Aston Martin finery.

The Cygnet would only be sold to current Aston Martin owners, presumably for them to drive on city errands and such, when piloting their regular Astons might be deemed overkill. Speaking of death, this column is done!

Michael Goetz has been writing about cars and editing automotive publications for over 20 years. He lives in Toronto with his family and a neglected 1967 Jaguar E-type.

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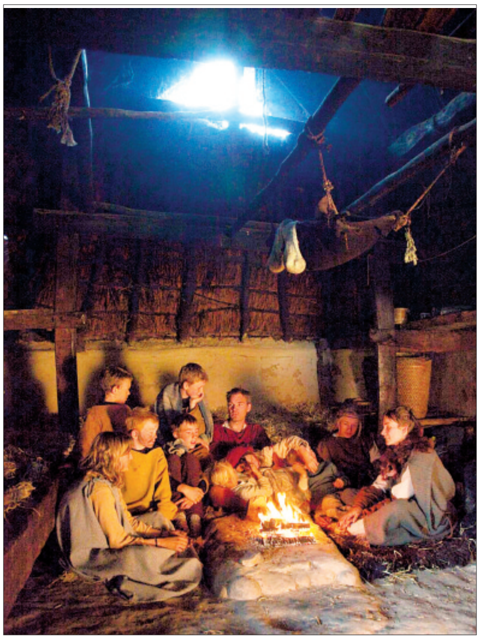
Travel

Qatar Visa rules changing

Canadians visiting Qatar will no longer be able to get a tourist visa on arrival in the Middle East country as of May 1, says Canada’s Department of Foreign Affairs. Qatar has introduced a rule requiring citizens of more than 30 countries — including Canada, the United States, Britain, France, Germany and Japan — to get a visa before going to the Persian Gulf emirate. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: BEN.RYCROFT@METRONEWS.CA



You will sleep on sheepskin rugs and under the open skies.

Stepping back through time

Denmark village gives tourists a taste of Iron Age living

PAUL BALDWIN
Metro World News

It sounds like a vacation designed by kids — playing outside in the sun, with random farmyard animals to torment, swimming in lakes, sleeping under the stars and absolutely no baths.

For a week.Which is weird because this is the Iron Age Village at Lejre, in Denmark — an experimental archaeology centre set in 100 breathtakingly beautiful acres.It’s basically the Stone Age, Iron Age, or Viking era here and you’re thrown into it with a pretty much sink or swim attitude.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Set on a 100 acre lot, this archeological experiment is full of lush landscapes.

Lejre is a living museum and for a week you are expected to wear the clothes, do the work and live the lifestyle of our 2000-year-old ancestors — often to the bemusement of other visiting Danish tourists.

But don’t get bent out of shape, failing is part of the fun. And, after the initial culture shock, the whole experience makes your modern family entertainment options seem impossibly tame in comparison.

You will share your time with about 25 others as you walk on bare earth, sleep on sheepskins and bathe in the lake.

Your toilet? It will be a hole in the ground — try not to make a mess.

You will work four or five hours a day forging iron, weaving rope, grinding flour, fetching water — whatever needs doing to make the village run you will be doing it.

Hard labour may not seem like much fun but as you lose your self in the era you will begin to love that too.Because this is not just another whacky camping trip but both a valuable experiment and a real conduit to another era — one with no TV, no media, and no deadlines other than sunrise and sunset.

And its amazing how connected you soon feel to our ancestors and how much smarter they suddenly seem to be.

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Belgium & Amsterdam
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7 Nights 4-Star $588
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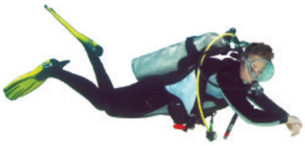

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King Tut returning to conquer Seattle

The treasures of Egypt's boy pharoah are returning to Seattle. An exhibit of artifacts from King Tutankhamun's tomb opens at the Pacific Science Center in 2012, more than 30 years after the boy king first captivated Seattle. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

4 Must see islands

1 **Grinda:** The boat trip here takes about two hours. There are beaches and rocks to swim from, a hostel, good restaurant and lovely nature to explore. Good fishing

2 **Finnhamn:** There are forests with great walks and you can find your own cliff to sunbathe on watching the sailboats cruise past

3 **Sandhamn:** Here's where sailors congregate at the Royal Swedish Yacht Club and there's a lot of partying in the summer. Enjoy the village and then walk through the forest to the glorious beach.

4 **Huvudskär:** Ferry from island Dalarö from Midsummer to August. Ancient fishing settlement, raided by Russians in the early 18th century, old light house, calm and stunning beauty. It includes almost 200 islands and a youth hostel.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Summer swimming in Sweden can reach 20 C.

Island hopping around Sweden

See Stockholm's gems by boat

JESSICA CARLESON
Metro World News

Stockholm is built on 14 islands and has a vast archipelago, easily accessible and with a broad range of activities.

You can cruise it in style, and splurge on seafood onboard or at top end restaurants on islands Oaxen and Grinda. You can island-hop budget style on the white boats that crisscross the 24,000 islands — from Landsort in the south to Örskär in the north and Svenska Högarna in the east — or experience the beauty and serenity of Stockholm's archipelago paddling in a kayak. The unique Swedish law Allemansrätten — the Right of Public Access — gives everyone wide rights to roam and camp even on privately owned land.

Day-trips to islands Finnhamn or Grinda are perfect for swimming (and jumping from the cliffs), fishing and lovely walks. There are well-serviced youth hostels on these and many other islands. Advanced bookings are advised especially around Midsummer in late June — a holiday when every Stockholmer who can will go to the archipelago.

The water gets warm enough for a dip reaching temperatures around 18-20 C in July and August, which is swimmable at least for Swedes.

The islands are everything from tiny rocks to ones with forests, sandy beaches.

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Bond faces cash problem

The next James Bond sequel, tentatively titled Bond 23, has been put on hold due to MGM's financial troubles, according to Variety. Producers say the next Daniel Craig 007 instalment is facing a foe as nasty as Dr. No or Scaramanga: Cash woes. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Entertainment

MTV host

Park and Recreation's Aziz Ansari will host the 2010 MTV Movie Awards. "I'm so happy Ronnie from Jersey Shore was unavailable and this exciting opportunity was able to come my way," Ansari said. TVGUIDE.COM

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Oceans come to life

Oceans is an extraordinary technical achievement for Disney.

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

Four years in the making with an unprecedented scale of production, Disney's latest nature feature Oceans is an extraordinary technical achievement.

Audiences are treated to remarkable images of undersea life that have never been seen before because the technology and resources to capture the footage didn't exist.

When the movie opens on Earth Day, cinema screens will be filled with stunning high-definition images of blue whales, dolphins, sharks, and other oceanic favourites in a scope that will demand jaws to drop.

It's a cinematic experience that has never quite been delivered before, just ask Rob Stewart a longtime Canadian underwater photographer and director of the Oscar-nominated documentary Sharkwater.

"I honestly felt a little divided between jealousy and excitement about what was achieved," Stewart told Metro. "They lived our (dream): To be able to spend as much time underwater as you want with the best camera technology in every ocean on the planet to delivery the majesty of this world to the public in a new way."

Oceans opens in theatres tomorrow

Stewart was able to spend time on the set of Oceans and admits to being blown away by the scale of the production that co-directors Jacques Perrin and Jacques Cluzaud (Winged Migration) had assembled. Stewart describes the filming process as being "radically different" from anything he'd seen before.

"The way I made a movie was with one camera, two assistants and me. They had between 20 and 30 people on set with joystick cameras, remote control vehicles, and robots with cameras built into them. They basically took the best of the technology from the surface and make it available underwater" revealed the director.

"It was a totally different way of shooting and that's why they got these images that are perfect, crisp, and beautiful."

Oceans might expand the possibilities of what can be done in this medium in the future, but it's not simply a technical exercise. The movie also sends a strong message about the importance of conservation, featuring some sobering satellite images of pollution flooding into the oceans.

"The satellite images show pollution run off from agriculture, fertilizers, and nitrates have caused dead zones in the oceans. These are areas with no life whatsoever. There are over 400 dead zones in the oceans including one that takes up most of the Gulf of Mexico," explained Stewart.

"That's why the movie Oceans is so important. To the general public the oceans are out of sight and out of mind. They don't know that 90 per cent of life on Earth lives in the oceans or that oceans give us 70 per cent of the oxygen in the air that we breathe.

"So, to bring people the majesty of the life underwater is going to give them an appreciation for these animals and make them care about the fact that they are being destroyed."

It's a strong and important message that will hopefully raise awareness for such environmental concerns.

Audiences who see the film during the first week of release will actually help the cause as a portion of the proceeds will be donated to ocean conservation. Just think, you can actually help the environment from the comfort of an air conditioned movie theater.

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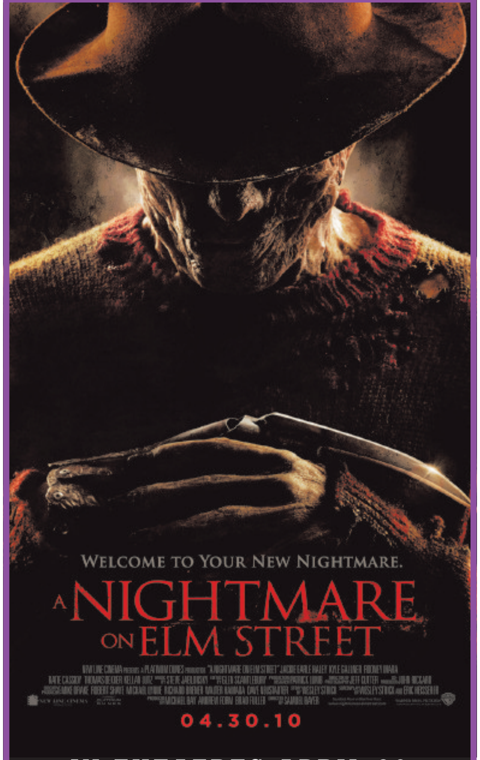
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No need for a back-up plan

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

Alex O'Loughlin has become a regular presence on TV screens with work on The Shield, Moonlight and Three Rivers — and he just finished filming the pilot for a remake of Hawaii 5-0.

But the hardworking Australian actor is no stranger to movie screens either. In his latest, the romantic comedy The Back-Up Plan, he goes toe-to-toe with none other than Jennifer Lopez. O'Loughlin sat down with Metro to talk about working with J.Lo, and why he prefers playing a villian.

Q What was it like going up against J.Lo?

A It was fantastic. It's funny when you word it like that, going up against her. It's like, yeah I guess I sort of was in a way. But it never felt like that. She's a pro, she's completely approachable. I mean, we met and became buds before we did the thing, so by the time it was first day on set, cameras rolling, we were like old mates, which is great. I think it's really important. If you go back and watch romantic comedies where people haven't been friends, it doesn't really work.

Alex O'Loughlin and Jennifer Lopez cozy up in The Back-Up Plan opening Friday.

PHOTO PROVIDED

Q How exactly did you bond before filming?

A I flew up and met her and Mark and the kids at their house in Long Island and just hung out. You know, you meet people in life and you either have chemistry or you don't. I think as an Aussie and just who I am as a person, humour is a really important part of my life. My mates and I are always giving each other a hard time and breaking balls. When I get to know someone, if I'm interested in them as a person, I sort of do a bit of that. I just test the waters a bit. And she's a Bronx girl from the block, and she was like, "Oh, really?" So there was a bit of that, which was nice.

Q Do you have a preference between playing heroes and villains?

A I really like playing villains. It feels to me like — and this isn't to say that I've ever done anything clever or talented in my career yet — but I feel like when I'm playing a villain, I can get away with a lot more. You go like, "Hey, listen, what if this guy had a tattoo on his face?" And the director's like, "Yeah! That's f--ing evil!" But as the hero, you're like, "Hey, can we...?" "No! You're the hero. Just look and smile." And that's a ridiculous sort of stereotypical response, but I just feel freer when I'm a villain.

The Back-Up Plan opens Friday

OT	Vu	SC	C		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
4/21/10 primetime	265	353	2	TVO	Lonesome George-Battle		The Agenda With Steve Paikin		London Hospital		The View From Here (N)		Agenda-Paikin
	211	331	3	GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	Bones (HDTV PA) (N)		Kitchen Nightmares (N)		Melrose Place		News Hour
	-	-	5	SRC	Virginie (SC)	L'Épicerie	La Petite Séduction (N) (SC)		Tous pour un (HDTV) (N) (SC)		Le Téléjournal Nouvelles. (SC)		TJ Ontario
	209	342	6	CHRO	Degrassi: TNG	TMZ (N)	America's Next Top Model (N)		Law & Order: SVU		The Listener (DVS)		Comedy Now
	196	311	7	CTV	etalk	Access H.	American Idol The contestants raise money for charity.				CSI: NY "Battle Scars"		CTV News
	208	303	8	CBC	NHL Hockey Buffalo Sabres at Boston Bruins. (HDTV) (Live)					National	NHL Hockey: Canucks at Kings		
	-	360	9	NBC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Mercy (HDTV) (N)		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		News
	117	713	10	TVA	Poule-oeufs or	Les Gags (SC)	En route vers le gala Artis (N)		Dr. House (SC)		TVA nouvelles	(10:45) Denis Lévesque	
	-	-	11	QS	Big Brother QC	Veux-tu m'ép	Wipeout (N) (SC)		True Blood (N) (SC)		L'Attaque à 5 (N)		Big Brother QC
	137	763	12	TFO	Panorama		Citoyens du monde		*Mifune* ★★ (1999, Com. dramatique) Anders W. Berthelsen.				Pour un soir
	-	362	13	CBS	The Insider (N)	Judge Brown	Old Christine	Accidentally	Criminal Minds "100"		CSI: NY "Battle Scars"		Two/Half Men
	216	395	14	OMN2	Family Guy	The Simpsons	Omni News: S. Asian Edition		Omni News: Cantonese Edition		Two/Half Men	King	Cold Case
	214	344	15	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Mercy (HDTV) (N)		Modern Family	Modern Family	Cougar Town	Cougar Town	News
	115	343	16	CFMT	Two/Half Men	The Office	Omni News: Italian Edition (N)		Vivere V	Omni News:	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Metropia
	218	345	18	CHCH	*A Night at the Roxbury* ★ (1998, Comedy)			*Live and Let Die* ★★★ (1973, Action) Roger Moore, Yaphet Kotto.					News at 11 (N)
	-	361	20	ABC	Action News	Entertainment	The Middle	The Middle	Modern Family	Modern Family	Cougar Town	Cougar Town	News
	512	396	24	CPAC	La Période de questions		Heure polit.	L'Heure politique				Revue	Période-quest.
	651	355	25	CTS	Little House on the Prairie		Father Dowling Mysteries		100 Huntley Street		Life Today	This Is Day	John Hagee
	-	365	36	FOX	TMZ (N)	Seinfeld	American Idol The contestants raise money for charity.				FOX 2 News (N)		News
	-	-	64	PBS	All-Star Auction								
	205	312	104	CTV	etalk	Access H.	American Idol The contestants raise money for charity.				CSI: NY "Battle Scars"		CTV News
news	502	390	26	NW	The Lang & O'Leary Exchange		Connect with Mark Kelley (N)		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		National
	500	500	33	CNN	John King, USA (N)		Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV) (N)		
sports	406	417	27	net	The Grid	UEFA Champions League Soccer					Sportsnet Connected		Ultimate Fight
	126	730	28	RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI économie	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	400	280	30	TSN	NHL Hockey Washington Capitals at Montreal Canadiens. (HDTV) (Live)					SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)			Off the Record
	410	403	52	SCR	NBA Basketball Teams TBA. (Live)				Score Now		Score Now		Score Now
	411	457	56	OLN	Ghost Hunters Academy		Destination Truth		Oper. Repo	Oper. Repo	Ghost Hunters Academy		Destin. Truth
	417	406	59	SC	NASCAR Smart	NASCAR Hub	Racing Chef	NASCAR	NASCAR Hall of Fame (N)		Pass Time	Pass Time	Pass Time
family	554	544	48	TEL	Johnny Test	Total Drama	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	King of the Hill	American Dad	Futurama	Robot Chicken
	557	540	51	FAM	Sonny Chance	Suite Life	Overruled!	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School	Cory in House	That's-Raven
	551	542	65	YTV	That's-Weird	Family Biz	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Simple Rules	Survive This	To Be Indie	Family Biz	Prank Patrol
cable variety	570	580	29	MM	The Daily Fix		Ranked!		mmtop10.ca		Family Jewels	Family Jewels	Family Jewels
	615	520	31	A&E	Criminal Minds (HDTV)		Bounty Hunter	Dog the Bounty Hunter		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Exterminator	Exterminator
	628	584	32	SPKE	The Unit "Two Coins"		UFC Unleashed		UFC Unleashed		The Ultimate Fighter (N)		Best of PRIDE
	521	560	34	TLC	Addicted "Jeremy"		Strange Sex (HDTV)		Hoarding: Buried Alive		Addicted (HDTV) (N)		Hoard-Buried
	145	761	35	TV5	Verdict		*Un ticket pour l'espace* (2006, Comédie)			Papa à moi	J'y suis, j'y	À Table	TV5 Le Journal
	616	521	39	SHO	Relic Hunter		*I Me Wed* (2007, Romance-Comedy) Erica Durance.				Secret Diary	Pure Pwnage	Law-Order
	620	523	40	BVO	From the Spirit	Bravo!Videos	Arts & Minds	O'Reagan Files	Wingfield	Star Portraits	White Collar		Law & Order
	520	505	42	DIS	Daily Planet (N)		I Could Do	I Could Do	Deadliest Catch "Slow Burn"		Mayday "Blown Apart"		Daily Planet
	575	583	43	CMT	Amer. Funniest Home Videos		Reba	Reba	According-Jim	According-Jim	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Due South
	601	562	45	SLC	Rich Bride Poor Bride		In Laws	In-Laws	End/Leash	End of Leash	End of Leash	End of Leash	ET Canada
	625	548	46	COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Lucky Louie	Hot Box	Daily Show
	294	529	47	TBS	MLB Baseball Philadelphia Phillies at Atlanta Braves. From Turner Field in Atlanta.						Seinfeld	Name Is Earl	Law & Order
	600	564	49	H&G	House Hunters	For Rent	Agent-Agent	Property Shop	Property Virgin	Unsellables	House Hunters	House Hunters	Holmes-Homes
	627	528	50	SPC	Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		Star Trek: Voyager		Chuck (HDTV)		Supernatural (HDTV) (N)		InnerSpace (N)
	581	566	53	MTV	Jessi in Kenya	Cribs	Cribs	After Show	The Challenge: Fresh Meat 2		The Challenge: Fresh Meat 2		MTV Live
	618	524	54	TROP	Dog Whisperer		Hoarders		Hoarders "Patty; Bill"		Parking Wars	Parking Wars	Spoiled Rotten
	522	506	55	HIS	Pawn Stars	Pawn Stars	Nostradamus Effect		Ice Road Truckers (HDTV) (N)		Ice Pilots NWT (HDTV)		Dive Detect
	129	773	60	CD	Biographies "Jude Law"		Fântomes chez les stars		Destr Expr	Destr Expr	Experts en crime (HDTV)		Images-chocs
	261	394	61	V	Murder, She Wrote		No Place Like	Open All Hours	Kingdom		Unscripted (N)	Twist of Faith	Poltergeist
	602	567	62	W	Supernanny		Grocery Bag	Grocery Bag	Cupcake Girls	Cupcake Girls	*Between Truth and Lies* (2006, Suspense)		
	269	350	70	APTN	Investigates	Our Home and Native Land		Down2Earth	Mighty River	Canadian Geographic		Venturing Frth	Storytellers
	621	527	71	TLK	Look-A-Like	TMZ	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		The View (HDTV) (N)		The Dr. Oz Show (N)		TMZ
	603	561	95	FN	Ricardo	Eat, Shrink	Challenge		Iron Chef America		Chopped "Rattle & Roll"		Restaurant

Bertinelli hits another milestone
Just days before Valerie Bertinelli turns 50 Friday, she achieved another personal goal: finishing the Boston Marathon. Bertinelli told People — just after running the 26.2-mile race, her first marathon, in 5:14:37 — “I feel euphoric.” **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Ringless Bullock comes out of hiding

LEAVE SANDRA ALONE! Sandra Bullock emerged from hiding again — and her wedding ring was nowhere in sight, people.com reports.

During its Monday night broadcast, Entertainment Tonight showed a photograph of the star taking a hike in Northern California. In the snap reportedly taken last Friday, a somber looking Bullock wears a hat and scarf and little makeup.

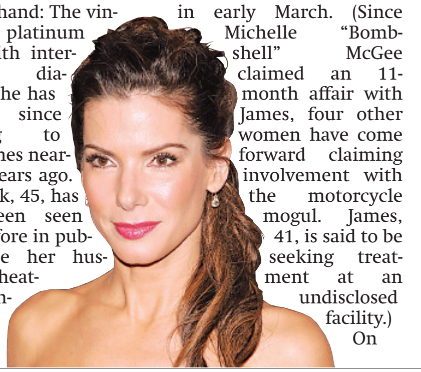
Noticeably missing from her left hand: The vintage platinum band with intertwining diamonds she has worn since wedding to Jesse James nearly five years ago.

Bullock, 45, has only been seen once before in public since her husband's cheating scandal erupted in early March. (Since Michelle “Bombshell” McGee claimed an 11-month affair with James, four other women have come forward claiming involvement with the motorcycle mogul. James, 41, is said to be seeking treatment at an undisclosed facility.)

On March 31, the Oscar winner — concealed by a floppy green hat and umbrella-bearing assistants — briefly left her Hollywood Hills home to visit the Beverly Hills home of her friend, investor Gabriel Brenner.

How is she doing now? “She is devastated but being methodical and trying to make the right decision about what to do next,” a Bullock source says in the latest issue of Us Weekly.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Lohan in big debt trouble

NEXT UP: VISA REHAB Despite not having made a film in more than a year, Lindsay Lohan has reportedly done nothing to curb her spending, and it’s taking its toll, according to Radar Online.

“Lindsay owes credit cards $600,000,” a source says. “One card cut her off last week, and it’s only a matter of time before all her other cards cut her off, too.”

The source says that the credit card companies are prepared t sue her if she continues to fail to make payments.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

CelebTweets

DAVID ARCHULETA didn’t expect to be spotted at a gay bar, **JIM CARREY** isn’t a fan of gossip, and **SARAH SILVERMAN** is asking the tough questions.

@DavidArchie Mental note to self: always ask where before you go! Wasn't my kind of place lol, and I had no clue! I guess you live and learn.

@JimCarrey Watching and reading gossip is like eating somethin' greasy. Fun at first but afterwords u feel gross. It seems 2 drain your vitality.

@SarahKSilverman Why aren't hair elastics allowed in movies or TV? Must every ponytail be wrapped in hair??

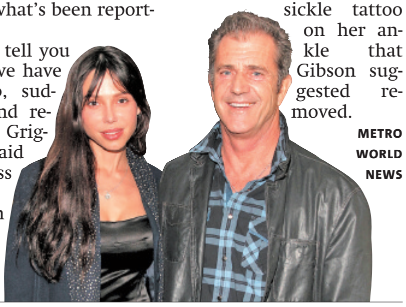
METRO NEWS SERVICES

Gibson’s baby mama playing coy about split

HEY - SHE’S GOT A FIFTEENTH MINUTE TO EXTEND, FOLKS Oksana Grigorieva is being coy about why she and Mel Gibson really split up, but she will say there’s more to it than what’s been reported.

“I can tell you that ... we have split up, suddenly and recently,” Grigorieva said at a press conference in Moscow. “Unfortunately, I cannot give you the reason. But you will find out everything quite soon.” She also divulged that she’s planning to get the hammer-and-sickle tattoo on her ankle that Gibson suggested removed.

METRO WORLD NEWS



Oprah jokes about bio

IF YOU CAN’T BEAT ‘EM ... Oprah Winfrey has finally addressed the allegations in Kitty Kelley’s new unauthorized biography of the media queen. While presenting an award to Gayle King at the New York Women in Communications Matrix Awards, the last week “was a rough one” for King because the pal “sometimes cares more about my life than I do.”

Winfrey joked, “Gayle got herself worked up with all my new daddies coming out,” referencing the book’s claim that Vernon Winfrey isn’t her real father.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Kardashian: Mom told me to pose nude

GOOD OLD FASHIONED FAMILY VALUES Kim Kardashian only posed for Playboy because her mother told her to, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The socialite admits she regrets baring all for the publication in December 2007, but was urged to do so by mother Kris Jenner to promote their Keeping Up with the Kardashians TV programme.

“‘Go for it,’ my mother said, ‘They might never ask you again. Our show isn’t on the air yet. No one knows who you are. Do it and you'll have these beautiful pictures to look at when you're my age,’” she said.

However, posing in another naked shoot for Harper's Bazaar, the 29-year-old beauty admits she feels more comfortable this time around.

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1	2	3	4	■	5	6	7	■	8	9	10	11
12				■	13			■	14			
15				16				■	17			
18					■	■	19	20				
■	■	■	21		22	23	■	24			■	■
25	26	27		■	28		29		■	30	31	32
33			■	34					■	35		
36			■	37				■	38			
■	■	39	40		■	41		42		■	■	■
43	44				45	■	■	46		47	48	49
50				■	51	52	53					
54				■	55			■	56			
57				■	58			■	59			

ACROSS

1 Water barriers
5 Foolish one
8 Pack cargo
12 Bassoon's cousin
13 Leap
14 Georgetown athlete
15 Produce
17 Holly
18 List of candidates
19 Breathing hard, maybe
21 Retain
24 Goof up
25 FDR is on it
28 Verdi opera
30 Pub order
33 Important numero
34 Prejudiced sort
35 Afternoon social
36 Conclusion
37 A Great Lake
38 Yogi or Smokey
39 Long, long time
41 Verifiable
43 Earns
46 Throat ailment
50 Exam format
51 Free
54 Initial chip
55 Praise in verse
56 Teen's woe
57 Require
58 Witty one
59 2001, for one

DOWN

1 Kennel occupants
2 The third man
3 "— Lisa"
4 Boil
5 "Eureka!"
6 No teetotaler
7 Jet forth
8 Less outgoing
9 Stand
10 Courtroom call
11 Like paraffin
16 Old Olds
20 Radiator offering
22 Den
23 1 in 1,000,000?
25 Payable
26 Quaint stopover
27 Preside over
29 Active one
31 Grazing area
32 Audience
34 Crooked
38 Backstab
40 Lubricated
42 Work with
43 Haunted house sound
44 Sea eagle
45 Unhurried
47 "The Amazing —"
48 Italian volcano
49 Juror, in theory
52 Greek mountain
53 Plead

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

3								6
	1	4		5		3	7	
5		8				4		9
		6	3		2	8		
		3	8		9	7		
6		7				1		2
	9	1		4		6	5	
8								7

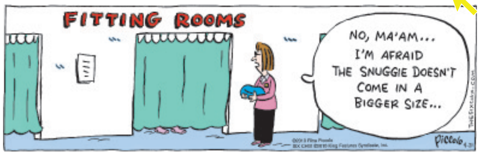
PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

B	R	A	D	■	F	O	R	■	M	O	N	O
I	O	T	A	■	A	D	E	■	A	B	E	L
B	E	T	H	E	S	D	A	■	R	O	A	D
■	■	■	L	E	T	■	D	A	T	E	R	S
S	N	A	I	L	■	B	A	C	H	■	■	■
P	A	P	A	■	A	L	P	H	A	B	E	T
A	S	S	■	A	P	I	T	Y	■	E	A	R
S	H	E	R	B	E	T	S	■	T	A	T	E
■	■	■	H	A	R	Z	■	S	O	U	S	E
W	A	P	I	T	I	■	O	H	M	■	■	■
I	N	O	N	■	T	I	B	E	T	A	N	S
D	E	M	O	■	I	R	E	■	O	L	I	O
E	W	E	S	■	F	A	Y	■	M	E	A	T

3	9	1	8	7	5	4	2	6
5	7	8	2	6	4	1	3	9
6	2	4	1	3	9	8	5	7
1	8	9	3	4	6	5	7	2
4	5	6	7	2	1	3	9	8
7	3	2	9	5	8	6	1	4
9	1	3	6	8	7	2	4	5
2	6	5	4	9	3	7	8	1
8	4	7	5	1	2	9	6	3

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca


FITTING ROOMS
NO, MA'AM... I'M AFRAID THE SNUGGIE DOESN'T COME IN A BIGGER SIZE...
Piccolo

Metro Recipe of the Day

Chicken with Noodles

INGREDIENTS:

2 1⁄2 to 3 pounds chicken breasts, thighs, and drumsticks
4 cups lower-sodium chicken broth (page 67)
2 large carrots, cut into 1⁄2-inch slices
1 large onion, chopped
1⁄4 tsp each salt and pepper
1 package medium-size regular noodles
1⁄4 cup cold water
2 tbsp all-purpose flour

METHOD:

1. Remove and discard chicken skin. Rinse chicken; drain and pat dry. In Dutch oven, combine chicken, broth, carrots, onion, salt and pepper. Bring to boil. Lower heat and simmer, covered, 30 minutes or until chicken is cooked through. Remove chicken from broth mixture. Set broth mixture aside. Cool chicken; remove and discard bones. Cut meat into bite-size pieces.

2. Bring broth mixture to boil over high heat. Add noodles. Return to boil. Lower heat and simmer, covered, 6 minutes.

3. Add chicken. In small bowl, whisk cold water and flour. Stir into chicken mixture. Cook, stirring constantly, until mixture starts to thicken. Cook and stir 2 minutes more or until mixture is thickened. Serve over mashed potatoes.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Reader's Digest
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Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

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ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Money buys many things but it can't buy self-respect, so keep your standards up over the next 24 hours and don't get involved in anything devious.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Authority figures are likely to give you a bit of a hard time today but your mood is so positive at the moment that you won't let it get to you.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Make a mental effort to see the bigger picture today. If you allow yourself to get caught up in petty squabbles you will miss a golden opportunity.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
It is of the utmost importance that you are honest with people today, even to the extent of admitting to your failings.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
A power struggle is likely today but you must try to steer clear of it. This is not a good time to come down on one side or the other.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
You may think you have all the answers, and it is certainly true that you have some of them, but there is a limit to everyone's knowledge.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Usually you are pretty smart when it comes to assessing the financial worth of something but you are allowing your emotions to lead you right now.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
Even if you have the power to force others to do your bidding today the planets warn it won't do you much good. Use your powers of persuasion instead.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
It's okay to protect your interests, but it's not okay to be so aggressive that you risk turning people against you.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
Sometimes Lady Luck seems to desert you for no good reason and this may be one of those days. Don't let it worry you.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
It should by now be obvious that you are never going to get along with a certain individual. All you can do is agree to differ and go your separate ways.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Avoid people who are loud and aggressive. Avoid people whose attitude makes your blood boil. You will be easily provoked today.

This day in history

1509: Henry VIII ascends the throne of England on the death of his father, Henry VII.
1918: World War I: German fighter ace Manfred von Richthofen, known as "The Red Baron", is shot down and killed over Vaux sur Somme in France.
1960: Brasília, Brazil's capital, is officially inaugurated. At 9:30 am the Three Powers of the Republic are simultaneously transferred from the old capital, Rio de Janeiro.
1989: Tiananmen Square Protests of 1989: In Beijing, around 100,000 students gather in Tiananmen Square to commemorate Chinese reform leader Hu Yaobang.

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GRADUATE REBATE PROGRAM

™The Hyundai names, logos, product names, feature names, images and slogans are trade marks owned by Hyundai Auto Canada Corp. ♦Prices for models shown: 2010 Accent 3 DR GL Sport 5-speed is $15,830/2010 Elantra Limited is $21,980/2010 Elantra Touring GLS Sport is $23,430/2010 Santa Fe Limited is $37,695/2010 Tucson Limited is $34,345/2011 Sonata Limited is $30,700. Dealer participation of $500 for 2010 Accent L 3dr/$500 for Elantra L is included. Delivery and Destination charges of $1,495 for 2010 Accent/$1,495 for 2010 Elantra/$1,495 for 2010 Elantra Touring /$1,760 for 2010 Santa Fe/$1,760 for 2010 Tucson/$1,565 for 2011 Sonata, fees, levies, charges and all applicable taxes (excluding PST and GST) are included. Registration, insurance, PPSA ($75) and license fees are excluded. Delivery and destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. ◊Purchase financing available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services on 2010 Accent 3Dr/2010 Elantra/2010 Elantra Touring /2010 Santa Fe models with a finance rate of 0%/0%/0%/0% for 36/60/48/60 month terms. Financing example: 2010 Accent L 3Dr 5-speed for $11,530 at 0% per annum equals $320.28 per month for 36 months for a total obligation of $11,530. Cash price is $11,530. Example price includes Delivery and Destination of $1,495, fees, levies, charges and all applicable taxes (excluding PST and GST). Registration, insurance, PPSA ($75) and license fees are excluded. **Leasing offers available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services based on a new 2010 Tucson GL 6-speed/2011 Sonata GL 6-speed with an annual lease rate of 2.9%/3.65%. Monthly payment is $253/$250 per month for a 48/60 month walk-away lease. Down Payment of $4,695/$4,320 and first monthly payment required. Total lease obligation is $16,839/$19,320. Lease offer includes Delivery and Destination of $1,760/$1,565, fees, levies, charges and all applicable taxes (excluding PST and GST). Registration, insurance, PPSA ($75) and license fees are excluded. $0 security deposit on all models. 20,000 km allowance per year applies. Additional charge of $0.10/km. Delivery and Destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. ♦◊**Offers available for a limited time and subject to change or cancellation without notice. See dealer for complete details. Dealer may sell for less. Inventory is limited, dealer order may be required. ΩThe Hyundai Elantra received the lowest number of problems per 100 vehicles among compact cars in the proprietary J.D. Power and Associates 2009 U.S. Initial Quality Study℠. Study based on responses from 80,930 U.S. new-vehicle owners, measuring 245 models and measures opinions after 90 days of ownership. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of owners surveyed in February-May 2009. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com. ΔSee your dealer for eligible vehicles and full details of the Graduate Rebate Program. ††Hyundai's Comprehensive Limited Warranty coverage covers most vehicle components against defects in workmanship under normal use and maintenance conditions.